ELY news

Thursday, August 31, 2017
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50p

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Top marks for students

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PRISONS

Rise in county's inmate deaths

DEATHS in Cambridgeshire prisons have more than doubled in a year to the highest number on record, with both self-inflicted injuries and natural causes behind the rise.

In 2015, eight deaths of inmates were recorded at prisons across Cambridgeshire, while in 2016, the number jumped to 19. This was the highest number of deaths recorded in one year since modern records began in 1978.

The number of deaths from natural causes rose from six in 2015 to 15 in 2016.

In 2016, 13 of these deaths involved people aged 50 and over, compared to three out of six in 2015.

There were two self-inflicted deaths at Cambridgeshire prisons in 2016, up from one in 2015.

Across prisons in England and Wales, 354 deaths were recorded in 2016, a 38 per cent rise from 257 in 2015.

It was also the first year the number of deaths in prisons rose above 100.

An ageing prison population in England and Wales could be contributing to the rise in deaths from natural causes.

There were a total of 196 deaths in 2016, up 33 per cent from 147 in 2015.

In 2016, 20 per cent of all deaths in prison were of people aged 70 and over, compared to 10 per cent in 2006, and two per cent in 1996.

For deaths from natural causes, 36 per cent in 2016 were of people aged 70 and over, against 19 per cent in 2006 and six per cent in 1996.

WILDLIFE

Where are the black swans?

OLIVIA **BELL**
@CambridgeNewsUK

BIRD-LOVERS are in a flap over the disappearance of Ely's black swans.

A few years ago, two black swans were regularly seen gliding through the reeds of the Great Ouse in Ely.

One vanished a year ago, perhaps lured by greener pastures – or ponds – or fallen fowl of an opportunistic fox.

Its companion continued to be a regular feature on the waterway, but now seems to have taken flight and left the area.

Concerns were raised on a local website about the birds' disappearance.

A survey by the British Trust for Ornithology published five years ago confirmed that 36 pairs of black swans were nesting wild in Britain, although the likelihood is that there are many more who haven't been tagged. Ever-polluting waterways and diminishing natural reserves, however, mean that much river flora and fauna is under threat, including swans.

Black swans are native to Australia and were originally brought to the UK as ornamental birds. Those gracing our rivers in the wild have either escaped from captivity or are descended from formerly captive birds.

Although they can technically breed with white mute swans, this is rare. Perhaps Ely's lone bird has gone looking for a mate or there may be a darker reason behind its disappearance.

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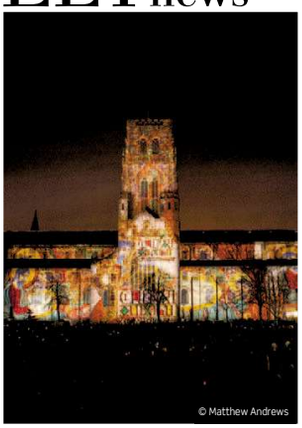
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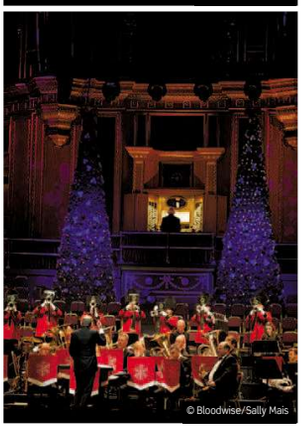
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COLLISION

Mobile home is left mangled by low bridge

A MOBILE home was left badly damaged after the driver appeared to have driven it into a low-lying bridge.

The vehicle was seen parked by the side of Bridge Road in Ely at around 5pm on Thursday, just before a railway bridge.

The bodywork at the front of the caravan was completely mangled and seemed to have been torn apart after the driver misjudged the height of the vehicle.

On the bridge, the words 'warning very low bridge' can be seen in fluorescent yellow letters, with a sign displaying a 2.7m height limit. Black and yellow stripes also cover the top and sides of the structure.

ROADS

Lorry crash on A141

A DRIVER has received a minor injuries after a collision involving two lorries near Chatteris.

The incident on the A141 Fenland Way was reported at around 6am on Friday.

Motorists were delayed by the closure of the road while emergency services attended the scene.

The road was shut in both directions between the A142 and the B1050 Huntingdon Road, with a diversion set up through Chatteris.

An update from police on Twitter said officers from Fenland Police, Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue, Magpas and the East of England Ambulance Service attended the scene.

A spokesman for the East of England Ambulance Service said: "We treated a man in his 40s for minor injuries and he was taken to Addenbrooke's."

Images posted online showed significant damage to the cabin of one of the lorries involved in the crash.

The road reopened around 10.45am.

POLITICS

By-election is prompted by resignation

ANNA **SAVVA**
@AnnaSavvaCN

A BY-ELECTION is set to be held in Ely next week following the resignation of a councillor

Tom Hunt resigned as a councillor for the Ely south ward on East Cambridgeshire District Council in July to join the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority.

An election for the vacant seat will take place on Thursday September 7.

The candidates are Sarah Louise Bellow, Conservative Party, Rebecca Anne Denness, Labour and City of Ely councillor Christine Whelan, Liberal Democrats.

Tom Hunt was first elected as a Conservative councillor for the Ely south ward in May 2011, standing as one of the youngest councillors in the region at just 22 years old. He was re-elected in May 2015.

Following his resignation Mr Hunt said: "It has been a great honour to have served the people of Ely south over the past six years. The decision to stand down mid-term is not an easy one nor one that I've taken lightly.

"However, it's my belief that the chance to make a meaningful contribution at the Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Combined Authority over the next few years represents a unique opportunity and one that I'm keen not to miss."

Reflecting upon his career in East Cambs, he said he was proud of his achievements in helping ELy become a better place for young families, through the development of the new cinema and forthcoming leisure centre.

He continued: "I wish all Ely south residents, my successor, and the council all the very best for the future.

"I am confident that the current leadership will continue to take the council from strength to strength."

The results of the election will be published on the council's website: *www.eastcambs.gov.uk/elections-voting/current-upcoming-elections*

INSECTS

‘Be-spider ourselves’

IT’S spider season in the UK and many people are not enjoying the increased numbers of huge spiders appearing in their homes.

Even though we all know they’re pretty harmless and mostly hang around killing flies, that doesn’t stop many of us from running at the sight of them.

After Andrew Taylor shared his grisly encounter with an eight-legged intruder large enough to set off his burglar alarm, in Manchester, *News* readers responded online with their own spider experiences.

Julia Eastwood posted a picture on the *News* Facebook page and wrote: “One I saw after having a shower and putting my glasses on . . .”

Elaine Grover said: “This was in my bedroom last Sunday. Spiders don’t usually bother me, but I have never seen one that big before. Nearly pooped myself.”

Gina Jane wrote: “This was my recent house guest. It even brought its partner along, but its partner was quicker, so we couldn’t get a photo!”

Lynn Berry commented: “One in already, neatly evicted!”

Rafał Kolano joined in with: “Four of them in last two days in my house . . . Around 4-5cm big.”

Tania Phillips said: “Dirty little things.”

We’re not sure if we agree with the ‘little’ part on that one.

Pam Thompson shared her own ordeal, writing: “I had one last week. In the end I got it onto the head of a broom and chucked it out with the warning that if she comes back in again, up the vacuum cleaner she will go. I’ve seen smaller tarantulas.”

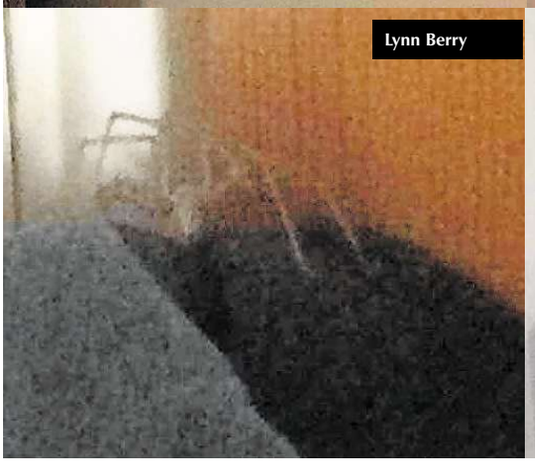
It’s safe to say these stories weren’t any comfort to locals who are yet to bump into these unwanted house-guests.

Victoria Lowther commented: “Need to get conkers and peppermint spray pronto! I’m not dealing with them.”

Meanwhile, Rosella Taylor wrote: “Seriously, I’m moving into the office for a month, pretty sure they don’t like air conditioning!”

Elaine Grover

Julia Eastwood


Lynn Berry

Tania Phillips

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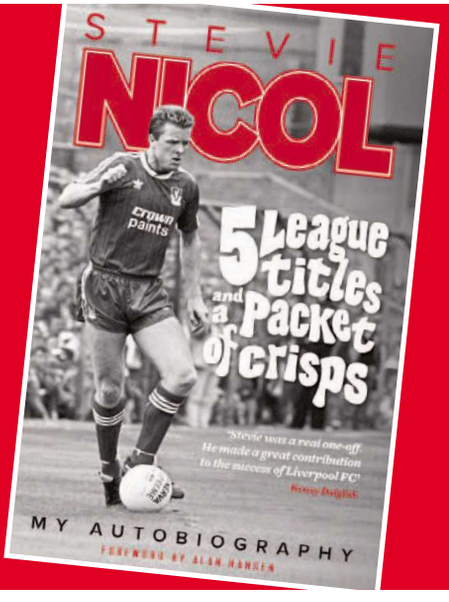

EXAM RESULTS

Results delight for city students

GOOD NEWS: Students from Ely College receive their GCSE results

ANNA **SAVVA**
@AnnaSavvaCN

STUDENTS and staff at schools across Ely celebrated some top GCSE results this year.

It was the first year that students had to contend with a new grading system of 9 to 1 for English literature, English language and maths, which involve a heavier emphasis on exam results and no coursework.

It seems like months of hard work paid off.

King's Ely saw more than half of grades achieved being A*s or As.

Fifty three per cent of all GCSE grades achieved this year were A* or A (Grades 9-7) and 26 per cent were A*s (Grades 9-8). Seventy-seven per cent of students achieved A*-B results (Grades 9-6) and the percentage of students who achieved A*-C results (Grades 9-5) was 93 per cent.

Vice principal academic at King's Ely Senior, Jane Thomas, said: "This year group has been the first to contend with the challenges of the reformed GCSEs in maths, English language and English literature. They have worked incredibly hard across all their subjects and many have surpassed their expectations. We are very proud of all their achievements."

Among the star performers who achieved all A* or 8/9 grades were Abigail Hickman, who achieved seven A*s, one grade 9 and two grade 8s; Timi Abioye, who achieved six A*s, one grade 9 and two grade 8s; Maria Campbell who achieved six A*s, one grade 9 and two grade 8s and Elliott Johnson Hall who received six A*s and three grade 8s.

Principal of King's Ely Sue Freestone, said: "We are celebrating some really strong individual performances and an increase, again, at the highest level of attainment."

Meanwhile Ely College bagged its strongest GCSEs yet.

Ely College achieved the best GCSE results in its history with 64 per cent achieving 9-4 in both English and maths and 60 per cent of students achieved at least five A*-C grades, including a score of 4 or above in English and maths. The overall pass rate was a fantastic 98 per cent.

Richard Spencer, principal of Ely College, said: "I'd like to congratulate all of our students and their families on these excellent results for Ely College. We are very proud of what Year 11 have achieved.

"The significant improvements secured today are the result of a great deal of hard work from our students and my wonderful staff.

"Ely College is once again a school of which the community can be proud, and we are determined to build further on this success in the years to come.

"At the start of the year, I challenged the whole school community to look for an additional 10 per cent in all that we do. For us to have exceeded that in terms of results in our first year is fantastic.

"I wish all of our students every success as they move onto further education, and am excited to be welcoming many of them back to our own Bishop Laney Sixth Form."

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Small-minded solutions

GOODNESS me, we have not just one but three Tories shaking their heads solemnly over the seriousness of the congestion on the A10 (*Ely News*, August 17).

Presumably their solution will be to turn the A10 to Cambridge into a dual carriageway. Yet on the following page, you report that rail fares will rise by 3.6 per cent.

Aren't high rail fares and a dreadful service forcing people on to the roads?

And do we need all these new towns anyway, which will, no doubt, contain no affordable houses for low income families and do nothing to solve the housing problems of the poor?

David Cameron tore up the last Labour government's policy of building social housing, saying it only created Labour voters. What compassion! What vision! Then he retires into his fifty grand shed to write his memoirs about How I Saved The Country.

Converting the A10 to a dual carriageway won't solve anything: the traffic will simply increase in volume to fill it. Look at the A14, as your correspondent PJ rightly says. Look at the M25 while you're at it.

Small minded solutions are the stock in trade of local and national Tories, the people who brought us selling off the Barton Road car park – no space for coaches now, fewer tourists, damage the local economy – and closed public loos because they were too expensive to run and why should the working classes relieve themselves anyway?

Their vision is to cover Cambridgeshire with tarmac. How green! Actually, grey and polluted.

We will have the Ely bypass, a dual carriageway A10, new towns which will no doubt be crammed with luxury executive homes, more pollution, more money for the Tories' chums the road and building lobbies. O brave new world!

The Tories have no vision and no imagination. How about some big thinking? Nationalise the railways. Keep the fares down by subsidising them: it worked in Livingstone's London and Blunkett's Sheffield in the 1980s.

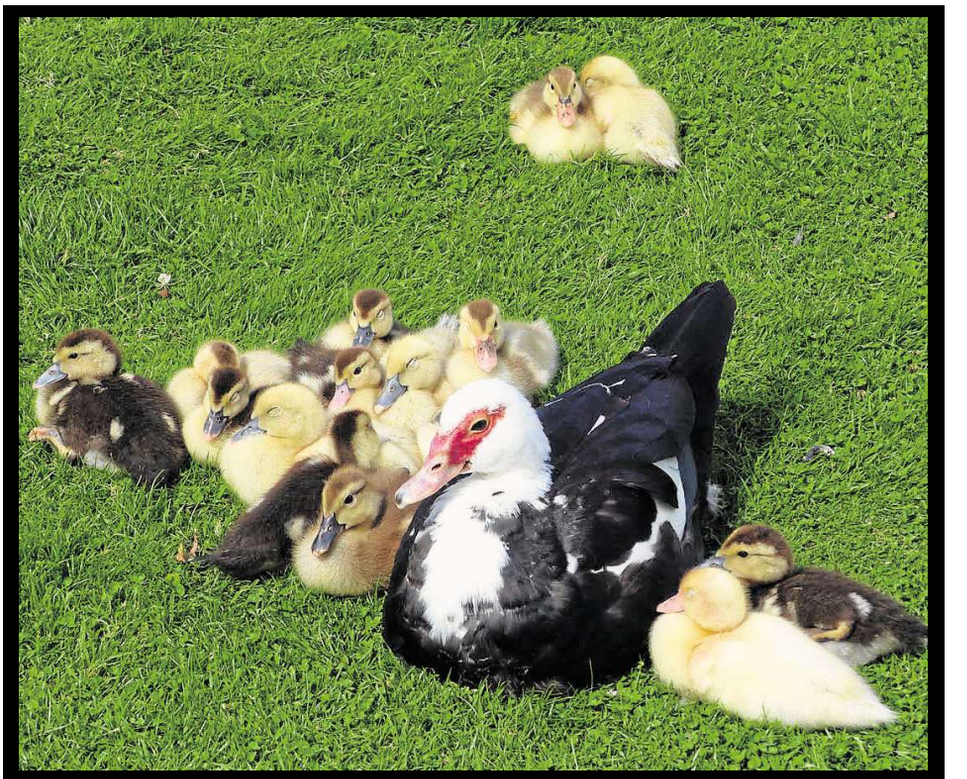
Have longer trains: why not eight carriages instead of three? Make the station platforms longer to accommodate them.

Build affordable homes, bring back rent control and The Fair Rent Act. I hear Tories shriek in horror at the prospect of not coining it in by fleecing their tenants.

Get people out of their cars and into greener public transport. That'll solve the A10 problems.

But will the Tories do such things? Of course not. These are the people whose idea of social housing is Grenfell Tower and whose vision of transport is roads, roads, roads, more cars, more pollution, more global warming.

Frank Danes
Columbine Road
Ely



FAMILY TIME: A mother duck and her brood of 15 ducklings caught the eye of Paul Loveday at Ely Maltings

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Development is just too big

I CANNOT help but agree with the views of Dr Peter Dawe (*Letters*, August 24) about the recent planning decisions for Ely.

I find it incredible that getting on for 50 years after allowing the unsuitable development of the market place in the sixties, Ely City Council are set to give permission to proceed for another equally inappropriate scheme on the same site.

I can understand the sentiment in the 1960s to portray a modern city but since that time, planners have realised the value of heritage assets and do not seek to destroy what they have. Ely, it seems, have not.

One of the joys of visiting Ely, especially on a market day, is to be able to see the cathedral from the Market Square. These latest proposals all but obliterate the view.

The proposed redevelopment is too big, much too big.

It is no use trying to tell us that it is two storeys and attics, it is four storeys high and overbearing on that site –even with a clock.

Whilst what is there is of no great beauty, it is at least of the right height and scale.

Give it another 50 years and people might appreciate its sixtiesness.

Maybe we should keep it; doing so would be a better option than what is planned.

Steven Cole
Church Lane
Ely

A different way of learning

BRITISH sixth formers achieving some of the best A-level results seen for several years on exam results day was fantastic news, and we should rightly be proud of these young people.

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Natalie Whipday
England and Wales Director
The Boys' Brigade
Hemel Hempstead

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TRANSPORT

Office staff trained to take on guards' role as strike threatens

TOM **PILGRIM**
@TomPilgrimCN

BOSSES at rail operator Greater Anglia are training up back office staff – including IT workers – to prepare against a potential strike by its guards.

The RMT rail union has served notice that it will be balloting guards from Greater Anglia on whether or not to pursue industrial action over the proposal for train drivers to open and close doors.

The operator is seeking to extend Driver-Only Operation (DOO) across its network, saying job numbers will not be affected.

But the union claims driver-only operated trains are a threat to passenger safety and want guarantees over the role of guards, also known as conductors.

Any possible strike is likely to affect rural services on the Greater Anglia network, including those travelling between Ely and Norwich, Ipswich and Cambridge.

Richard Dean, director of train service delivery, explained that staff from around the company, including IT workers, were being called on to replace guards, should they go on strike.

"We've been training quite a number of back office staff to carry out the role of the conductor to enable us to run as normal a service as possible," he said.

Ballot papers on both strike action and action short of a strike were issued to union members on Monday, August 21. The ballot will close on Tuesday, September 12.

The stand-off between the operator and union mirrors issues that recently blighted Southern Rail routes and caused months of misery for passengers.

Greater Anglia currently has 222 conductors and seven conductor managers on its network.

These play a customer service role, giving advice and checking tickets. They also currently close train doors.

Greater Anglia is proposing that drivers will take over in closing doors on all of its trains.

DOO exists on 60 per cent of Greater Anglia trains, and it wants to implement the practice across the whole of the network to encourage guards to focus on assisting passengers.

Mr Dean added: "It's taking them away from customers at a time when they need help. We want to enhance the role of the conductor."

He said the operator had guaranteed their jobs for the duration of its current franchise – up until 2025.

He added: "We've given guarantees to keep our conductors and we're currently recruiting more. This isn't about job security, it is about modernisation."

Mr Dean said he was "disappointed" about the threat of action and that Greater Anglia was open to more talks.

Union officials said on August 14 that a meeting with Greater Anglia failed to provide them with the assurances they had been seeking on the role and responsibilities of the guards.

Speaking last week, RMT general secretary Mick Cash said: "Greater Anglia has been given every opportunity to give a guarantee on the future role of the guard on their services. They have failed to do so."

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Birthday Greetings

Happy 21st Birthday

KERRIDGE Harriet

(3rd September 1996)

Lots of love always.

Mum and Dad

xxx

21

Kerridge Harriet

Happy 21st Birthday to our special cousin.

Lots of Love from Laura, Katie, Ashley and Tash, Bethany and Matthew xxxxx

21

Kerridge Harriet

Happy 21st Birthday, 3rd Sept 2017.

Lots of Love always, from Grandma and Grandad xxxx

21

Kerridge Harriet

Happy 21st Birthday. Hope you have a lovely day.

Lots of love

Auntie Carole, Uncle Lindsay, Auntie Helen and Uncle Andrew xxxx

Deaths

RUSSELL Frederick 'Jack'

of Wicken

Passed away peacefully at home on Friday 18th August 2017 aged 88 years.

Much loved husband of the late Jessie, brother and uncle.

Sadly missed by family and friends.

Funeral Service at St George's Church, Little Thetford on Tuesday 5th September 2017 at 2.30pm followed by Committal in Little Thetford Cemetery.

Family flowers only, but donations, if desired, for Arthur Rank Hospice Charity may be left at the service or sent to

Ely Funeral Service
4 Tower Road
Ely
Cambs
CB7 4HW
Tel: 01353 666566

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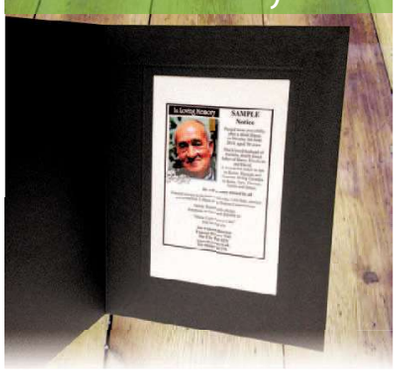

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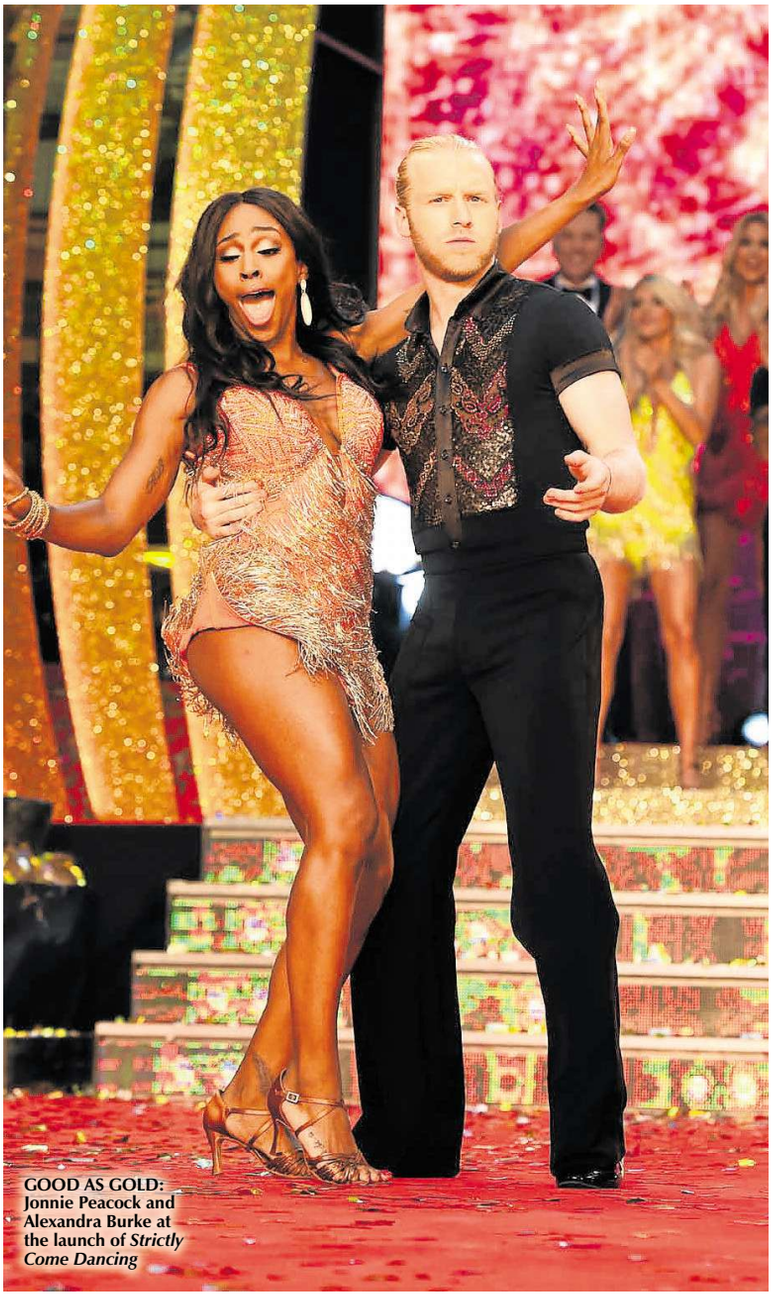


GOOD AS GOLD: Jonnie Peacock and Alexandra Burke at the launch of *Strictly Come Dancing*

Jonnie looks the part for Strictly

ANNA **STARNES**
@CambridgeNewsUK

THE stars of *Strictly Come Dancing*, including Cambridgeshire's Jonnie Peacock, strutted down the gold and silver carpet on Monday for the 15th season's launch show.

The event gave contestants a chance to show off their dance moves before they start training for the fierce competition.

Co-hosts Tess Daly and Claudia Winkleman kicked off the celebration, followed by this year's four judges: Darcey Bussell, Bruno Tonioli, Craig Revel Horwood and newcomer Shirley Ballas.

Shirley will be taking over from Len Goodman as head judge, *The Mirror* reported.

The contestants appeared decked out for the first time in their shimmering *Strictly* costumes.

Jonnie, from Doddington near Ely, is a double Paralympic champion and the first disabled celebrity contestant on the popular programme.

He appeared with Alexandra Burke, who glittered in an orange and gold ensemble with a daring neckline.

Jonnie, a single-leg amputee, won gold at the 2012 Summer Paralympics in London and again at the 2016 Paralympics in Rio, competing in the T44 men's 100 metres race.

He told the BBC: "I've got no previous dance history outside of the occasional 'worm' at a mate's party and I know this will be a challenge and a new experience.

"I can't wait to see what I can achieve and how far I can push myself."

The launch show will air on BBC One in September.

CHARITY

Colleges to rack up the smiles

EMILY **MARTIN**
@CambridgeNewsUK

DO you wonder what's behind those grand Cambridge University college gates?

Wouldn't it be lovely to stroll freely around those hidden gardens and bask in the beauty of Cambridge's private gardens?

Well now you can, and all for a great cause!

This year's route for Cambridge's popular Bridge the Gap walk has been announced and shows how the walk will wind around seven of Cambridge's stunning colleges, taking in historical landmarks, beautiful gardens and even an underground tunnel.

On September 10, participants will set off from Parker's Piece, calling at Downing College and Corpus Christi, cross King's Parade and meander through St Catharine's, before re-joining King's Parade and traversing the River Cam on to Queen's Road.

Looping back into the city centre, those taking part will then follow the path along Park Street to enter Jesus College and Christ's College, before exiting on to St Andrew's Street.

Bridge the Gap walkers will pass through to reach Emmanuel College, the last of the seven Colleges featured this year.

The start is staggered over the morning, with the first walkers setting off at 9.30am and the last by 10.30am, meaning that both early birds and slightly later risers can enjoy the circular wheelchair and pushchair friendly walk, of around five miles.

Dr Lynn Morgan, chief executive of Arthur Rank Hospice Charity, said: "There are some wonderful highlights in store with this year's walk. I have personally visited the colleges to meet with their staff and it has been a super opportunity to find out nuggets of information, which will both intrigue and delight our participants.

"With this being the 16th year of Bridge the Gap, you may think it is a challenge to come up with new highlights but thanks to the colleges' support I am confident that we have once again created a super route."

In 2016, the total raised for charity reached £46,000 and the walk welcomed more than 2,000 people.

This year is looking just as promising with nearly 700 people already signed up and all of the money raised intended for the Arthur Rank Hospice Charity and Romsey Mill .

Neil Perry, chief executive of Romsey Mill, added: "Alongside the walk itself, there will be musical entertainment, child-friendly activities, cake, food and hot drink stalls at Parker's Piece once you cross the finish line.

"It's the kind of walk which can be shared with family and friends or done by yourself, with the bonus that you will be helping to improve the quality of lives of those living within our county, just by taking part."

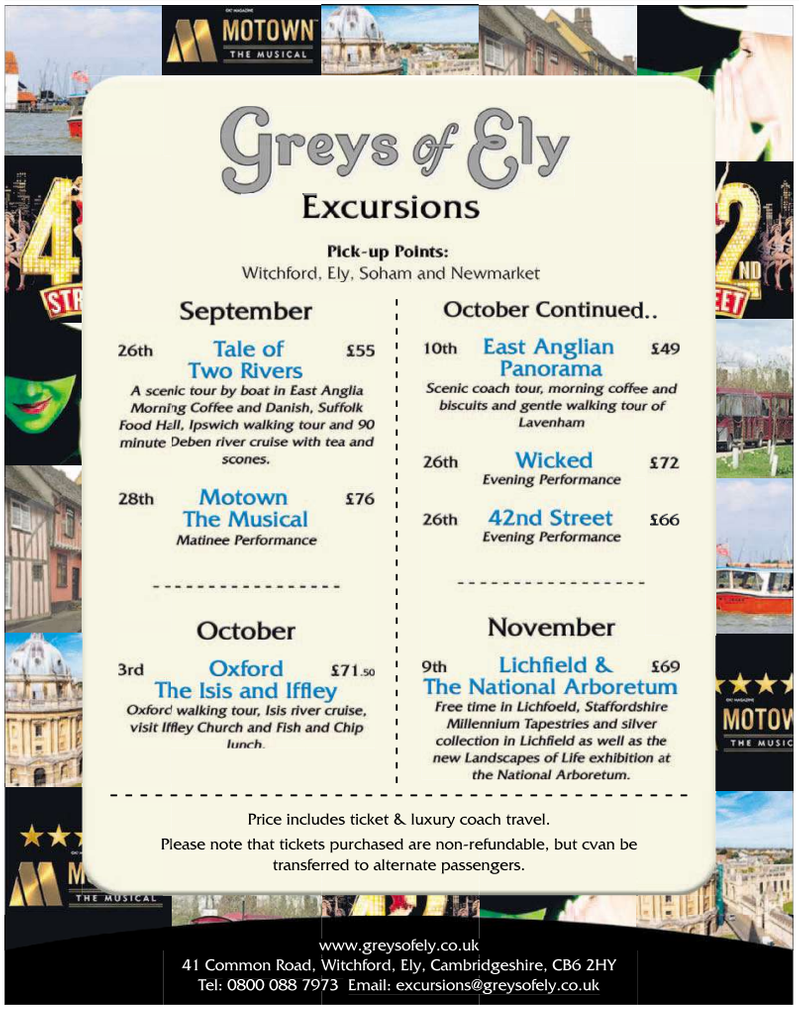
Registration is open until 1pm on September 8 at a cost of £18 per adult, which includes up to four children (under 18 years) free of charge.

If you miss the registration deadline, you can pay on the day between 9-10am at a cost of £20 per adult, again with up to four children included at no extra cost.

Walkers may also like to support the charities through sponsorship or donations.

And if you find a golden ticket in your goody bag, you could be walking away with tickets to The Cambridge Roar Comedy Night, Sunday lunch at the Royal Cambridge Hotel or an afternoon tea at Quy Mill Hotel and Spa, to look forward to!

BUILDING BRIDGES: A map of the route



TRANSPORT

Steaming ahead . . .

OLIVIA **BELL**
@CambridgeNewsUK

TRAINSPOTTERS in Cambridge were in for a treat on Monday when a steam train passed through the station.

The Tornado, the first steam train to be built in 50 years, was on its August Bank Holiday jaunt 'The Easterling', taking passengers from King's Cross for a good old fashioned day at the seaside in Great Yarmouth.

The Tornado was completed in 2008, and is a replica of a Peppercorn A1 locomotive from the 1940s.

Around 400 passengers made the journey from London King's Cross – through Stevenage, Ely, Cambridge and the Norfolk Broads.

The locomotive created quite a stir as it passed through the county, with enthusiasts lining train stations for a glimpse.

It was Tornado's first trip to Great Yarmouth, using steam throughout, and waiting for more than three hours at the beach resort before returning to London.

The train took a staggering 19 years of incredible effort to complete.

The A1 Steam Locomotive Trust was formed in 1990 with the ambition of constructing a new steam train, following the scrappage in 1966 of the last steam-run A1 locomotives.

Built in the original design but with additional water capacity and the latest railway safety electronics, it has proved a a chic way to travel.

Tickets to travel on future Tornado trips range from £99 return – where an on-board buffet is available, and seating in a heritage carriage – to £239 First Class Dining, which includes a silver-service breakfast as well as a four-course dinner menu on the return.

Details of future Tornado trips can be found on the website *www.a1steam.com*

THUNDERING BY: Matyn Tudge took this picturesque photo of the Tornado passing through the area

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CRIME

Police: Body cams make public safer

TARA COX
@TaraCoxCN

CAMBRIDGESHIRE police spent almost half a million pounds on body-worn cameras in three years – ranking in the top 10 highest spending police forces – but detectives insist the "invaluable" kit is "part of running a modern day police force".

The figures, released by anti-surveillance pressure group Big Brother Watch under Freedom of Information laws, were recently published in a report entitled *Smile you're on Body Worn Camera Part II – Police*.

The report reveals the investment police in the UK have made in equipping frontline officers with body-worn cameras.

Cambridgeshire police spent a total of £442,370 on 917 body-worn cameras – equating to £482 per camera.

The force was also ranked number 10 in the top 10 highest spending police forces for body-worn cameras.

The report said that neither the police nor the Crown Prosecution Service could provide data relating to the use of footage in criminal proceedings – making it "impossible" to verify the promise of improved convictions based on the use of the technology.

Big Brother Watch said police forces cited that the data was not being centrally recorded, not being held in an easily retrievable format, or simply not held at all.

Sgt Kevin Misik of Cambridgeshire police told the *News*: "The most recent example I can think of where body-worn video cameras have proven their worth is when an officer was threatened with a needle.

"In the defendant's interview he claimed he didn't do it – but it was all caught on camera. Body-worn cameras are also helpful in domestic abuse cases.

"The person with police also knows they're going to be recorded and this is an extra deterrent to crime. It also means we can monitor that officers deal with people appropriately.

"It just removes any doubt over what's occurred, because it's all there in multicolour HD."

Sgt Misik added: "Body-worn video cameras are pretty much invaluable. Our frontline officers in Cambridgeshire are using them all the time.

"They make the public safer and make the people police are dealing with safer."

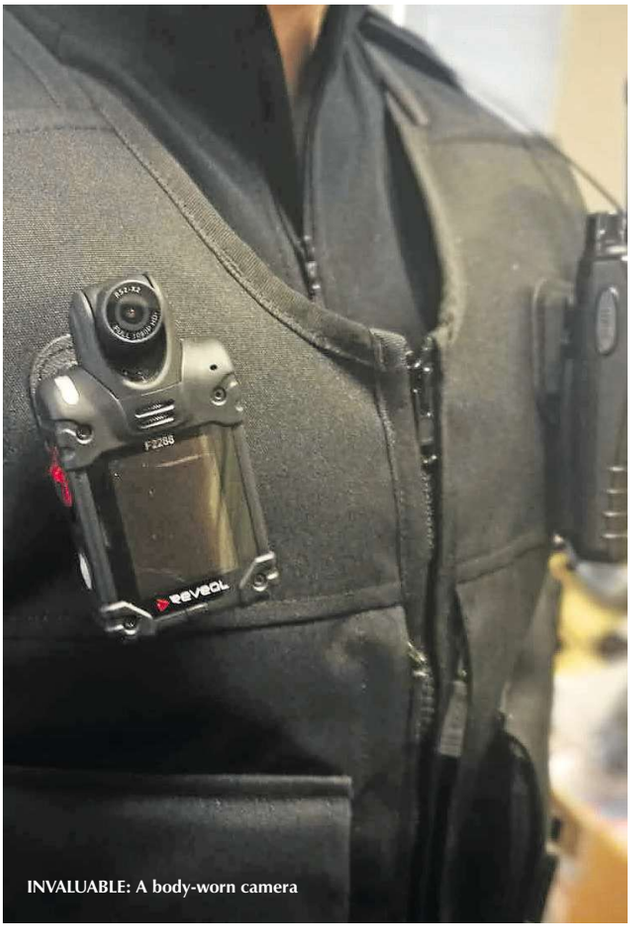
When asked about the cost of body cameras, Sgt Misik said: "I don't think it's a massive amount of money, just part of the operational costs of running a modern day police force."

Cambridgeshire police said nearly 90 per cent of people who took part in a survey believed the equipment was appropriate for officers to wear at all times.

A force spokeswoman said body-worn cameras had numerous benefits in frontline policing and the decision to purchase them took into account evidence showing they help protect the public and police officers who wore them.

They also provided evidence to help prosecute offenders.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?
Email us at *letters@cambridge-news.co.uk*

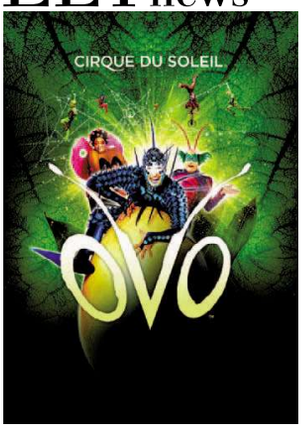


INVALUABLE: A body-worn camera

ELY news

Reader Offers

Newmarket Holidays



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ELY
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Belinda 07971 077941

SOHAM
Comrades Club
Market Street
9.30am, 5.30pm & 7.30pm
Sarah 07877 452954

BURWELL
Gardiner Memorial Hall
High Street
5.30pm & 7.30pm
Diane 07813 146804

TUESDAY

LITTLEPORT
Leisure Centre
Camel Road
9.30am, 11.30am, 6pm & 7.30pm
Sharon 07760 192638

WATERBEACH
Tillage Hall
Cambridge Road
5.30pm & 7.30pm
Jo 07790 660709

NEWMARKET
Studlands Park Sport & Social Club
9.30am
Sarah 07786 450433

ELY
Larkfields Resource Centre
High Barns
5.30pm & 7.30pm
Karen 01353 661771

NEWMARKET
Ditton Lodge First School
St Johns Avenue
5.45pm & 7.45pm
Sarah 07786 450433

WEDNESDAY

ELY
Beet Sport & Social Club
9.30am
Karen 01353 661771

LITTLEPORT
Millfield Primary School
Grange Lane
7.30pm
Jo 07527 646062

NEWMARKET
The Rutland Arms Hotel
5.30pm & 7.30pm
Michelle 07880 701958

SOHAM
Weatherall Primary School
Pratt Street
5.30pm & 7.30pm
Amanda 07563 544708

HADDENHAM
Social Club
9.30am
Clare 07876 343171

THURSDAY

LITTLE DOWNHAM
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5.30pm & 7.30pm
Julie 07709 866775

NEWMARKET
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SWAFFHAM PRIOR
Village Hall
5.30pm & 7pm
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STRETHAM
Primary School
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SATURDAY

ELY
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female seeking

REMEMBER: Calls cost £1.55 per minute plus your phone company's access charge. Texts cost £1.50 per message received.

HEATHER, 54yrs, slim brunette with petite figure, loves keep fit. Seeks chap for nights out, fun times, must be honest and kind. ACA. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 428491**

STEPHANIE, super sexy black mamma, 55yrs young with curves in all the right places. Call me and you wont be sorry, we can have the time of our lives. **Text Only. Box: 4060220**

VICTORIA, 46yrs, bubbly outgoing nurse, petite pretty brunette. WLTM N/S man, any age, must have GSOH and be kind. ACA. Or text. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 428489**

CANDIDA, 52yrs, married lady, very well educated with good looks and dress sense. Unappreciated by older husband and hoping for some fun with discreet chap. **Text Only. Box: 4010802**

GENUINE lady 50yrs, independent, seeks genuine man, call to hear more about me pls. ACA/text answered. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 428487**

CHLOE, very attractive girl, 32yrs, long hair and lovely teeth, I like to take care of myself. I want a man who will pamper me. In return you wont be disappointed as I am super sexy. **Text Only. Box: 4070336**

ANNETTA, 40yrs old seeks caring older gent 55+, you must be nice and enjoy my company. ACA/Text answered. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 428483**

PIPPA, recently divorced lady, 46yrs, hoping to get back into dating and have some fun with a guy any age. Must be a laugh and willing to have a go at most things. **Text Only. Box: 4101590**

TERESA, friendly lady with GSOH, curvy build and attractive looks, 50 something, seeking romantic male 45-55. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 428383**

FELICITY, "my friends call me posh" I'm not really. Call me to see. I'm 58yrs, curvy, blonde extensions and very good for my age. ACA. **Text Only. Box: 4043583**

ARE you a gent with GSOH 60-70 and looking for some fun then call me, Leah, I'm 57yrs, slim, attractive and looking for fun. ACA. Or text me. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 428381**

JANET, late 40's divorcee, own home and car looking to spice up my life with some fun. Discreet men only please, I'm not ready for a full on relationship, casual chats. **Text Only. Box: 4189331**

JANE, 52yrs genuine blue eyed blonde lady WLTM romantic gent for potential relationship. ACA/Text answered so please reply. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 428379**

KATIE 35yrs, slender well educated brunette seeks no strings mutual pleasure with gent 40+ Must be discreet, married or single. ACA. **Tel: 0906 515 3000 Box 419673**

LINDA, 48yrs, young looking blonde lady, slim and attractive. Hoping to meet new men friends, call and let's see what happens. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 428377**

JANE, young 41, very broadminded seeks chap any age for discreet no strings fun, any age, no time wasters ACA. **Tel: No: 0906 515 3008 Box: 409715**

MARGARET, attractive blonde widow, living alone and hoping to find a nice gentleman soulmate. I have lots to offer so please call or text me. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 428375**

SOPHIA young 40yrs, married but bored, seeks discreet adult fun, any area, all calls answered. **Tel: 0906 515 3016 Box: 413399**

JOY, mid 50s independent lady, brunette, loves dining out, seeking gent of any age. ACA. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 428373**

EMILY, mature well educated lady, blonde and smart and broadminded seeks gent any age for no strings fun. ACA. **Tel: 0906 515 3020 Box 421375**

ATTRACTIVE widow, loves life, 60s music, walking and fun. Hoping to meet a similar minded gent 60-80 for life's adventures. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 428371**

TAMIKA, mature black beauty, hourglass figure and open minded. Pls call if you are discreet, broad minded and nice. I can travel and accommodate. ACA. **Tel: 0906 515 3004 Box 422365**

NICOLA, 37yrs mixed race beauty, just moved to the area from London so a bit lonely. Looks unimportant must have GSOH and be kind. ACA/text answered **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 428369**

SAMANTHA, 35yrs, attractive brunette with own business, seeks adventurous gent for casual relationship. **Tel: 0906 515 3032 Box 425979**

WANTED, submissive gent by attractive lady 51yrs, please call if you want to know more. Ata **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 428367**

HARRIETT 42yrs, blue eyed brunette with long lets and decent curves! Looking for a cheeky adventurous man for fun only. I live alone so can accommodate and can travel. Discretion assured. ACA. Give me a try. **Tel: 0906 515 3028 Box 426205**

ANNA, early 50s, buxom blonde with OHAC, looking to share discreet fun with likeminded male. Any age/status. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 428265**

CARMEL, open minded naughty lady seeks a broad minded strict man to unleash her wilder side. Age/looks unimportant but no time wasters please. **Tel: 0906 515 3040 Box 426851**

ANGELA seeking a male, 65-70 and above, free minded and free spirited, likes eating in and out, travelling and going to the theatre. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 427701**

CAROLINE, 42yrs, well educated, sophisticated "some call me posh" married lady, looking for no strings midweek liaisons. **Tel: 0906 515 3024 Box 427533**

ATTRACTIVE lady 61yrs young. Looking for friendship, maybe more with genuine gent. I'm feminine and curvy. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 428157**

CHRISTINE, 60 something lady, blue eyed blonde. Sincere, solvent and kind. Call me if you are interested in meeting up. Looks unimportant. Must be N/S. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 428155**

CAROL, attractive lady 55yrs young, slim, tanned, brunette. If you are genuine and looking to date then call or text me. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 428153**

male seeking

STEVE is looking for a fun loving loyal lady 52+. Is that you? **Text only replies. Mailbox: 6042709**

MALE, 49, looking for love with a woman of any age, someone who is kind. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 428299**

TALL, slim, caring, kind, 48-year-old guy, seeks Asian female for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 426879**

MALE, 60s, looking for an open-minded mature lady for fun times. **Pls text replies. Mailbox: 6028699**

MARTIN 59, GSOH, kind and caring, looking for a kind lady any age, looks not important. I am very romantic. **Text only. Mailbox: 5680076**

BLACK male, Caribbean descent, 6ft2, looking for female, any nationality, for relationship and lovely fun. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 426485**

HI ladies, I am Roy, 43, WLTM special person for LTR and cuddles etc. Likes music, TV and reading, get in touch please. **Text only. Mailbox: 5803037**

WIDOWER 49, 5ft 9ins, blonde/grey, medium build, looking for fun times with unhappy female, n/s/, any age/status, discretion assured. **Text only. Mailbox: 5784314**

GOOD looking athletic male, 30s, with brown hair/blue eyes seeks woman for fun times. **Text only. Mailbox: 5792232**

BILL, 67yrs, 5ft 11ins, very fit and active, looking for a slim petite lady, reasonably attractive, 40-60, for friendship, probably leading to a relationship and fun times. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 426353**

DAVID, 70s, n/s, medium height/build, young at heart, kind and caring, seeks lady with time to share life's pleasures. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 425033**

MALE looking for a lady 40-60 yrs old who enjoys meals out and in, and snuggle up indoors with a bottle of wine. **Text only. Mailbox: 5444500**

TERRY, 51, very kind male, enjoys cinema, eating out, live concerts, travel, WLTM loving lady, 38-55, for LTR. **Tel No; 0906 515 4438 Box No: 423945**

KIND male, 50s, enjoys cinema, eating out, live concerts, travel, WLTM loving lady, 38-54, n/s, to share interests and LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 425795**

MALE 62 looking for a lady 45-55 for relationship must be kind, considerate and affectionate. I enjoy most things in life. **Text only. Mailbox: 5780167**

CARING loving guy looking for a lady to enjoy good times with. **Text only. Mailbox: 5783640**

MALE 60's kind and caring, GSOH, n/s, seeks similar female for lots of love laughter and happy times and hopefully LTR. **Text only. Mailbox: 4631948**

gay seeking

Join our Gay online service ***FREE*** visit: ***localgaydate.co.uk***

BI gay man, 72, wants virile man, any age. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 428451**

MALE 69, Slim build, WLTM CD bi male, age/looks unimportant. Wishes to be taught. **Text only replies. Mailbox: 6028068**

71 years old bi, seeks similar for fun times. **Text only replies. Mailbox: 4566382**

WHITE male 65, looking for a female, married or single of any nationality for some genuine discreet adult fun. Any age. **Text only. Mailbox: 5669789**

BI guy 57 looking for bi guy or cd TV any age for friendship and fun. **Text only. Mailbox: 5614948**

YOUNG, lean, athletic male, seeks elderly gentleman for nice walks in the park. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 420761**

REMEMBER: Calls cost £1.55 per minute plus your phone company's access charge. Texts cost £1.50 per message received.

Customer support
Call **0207 720 7130** Monday - Friday 10am - 4pm
or email us at **support@jmediauk.co.uk**

GENUINE caring lady 65yrs, varied interests, solvent, loves life, feminine, WLTM gent of any age for life's pleasures. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 428151**

RACHAEL, 50yrs, blue-eyed attractive lady, loves films, music and home life. WLTM gent 50-70yrs. ACA or text. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 428149**

TAMARA, 44yrs, beautiful Indian lady seeks a Muslim gent 40+ **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 428147**

IF you are interested in meeting an attractive black lady then please call me. I'm Nikki, 57yrs, attractive, interested and kind. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 428145**

MALE 62, 5' 11, med build, out going would like to meet female to go walking. Must like dogs. **Text only replies. Mailbox: 5561333**

OPEN minded, male, early 70s, seeks similar lady for friendship, days out, specials times and maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 426669**

MALE, 72, smart, fit, enjoys life, country walks and the coast, pub lunches, fun to be with, seeks similar female, Cambridge/Suffolk/Norfolk areas preferred. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 422995**

CHRIS, 49yrs honest gent seeks lady 45-55 for socialising, friendship, maybe leading to romance. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 425345**

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Property & living news

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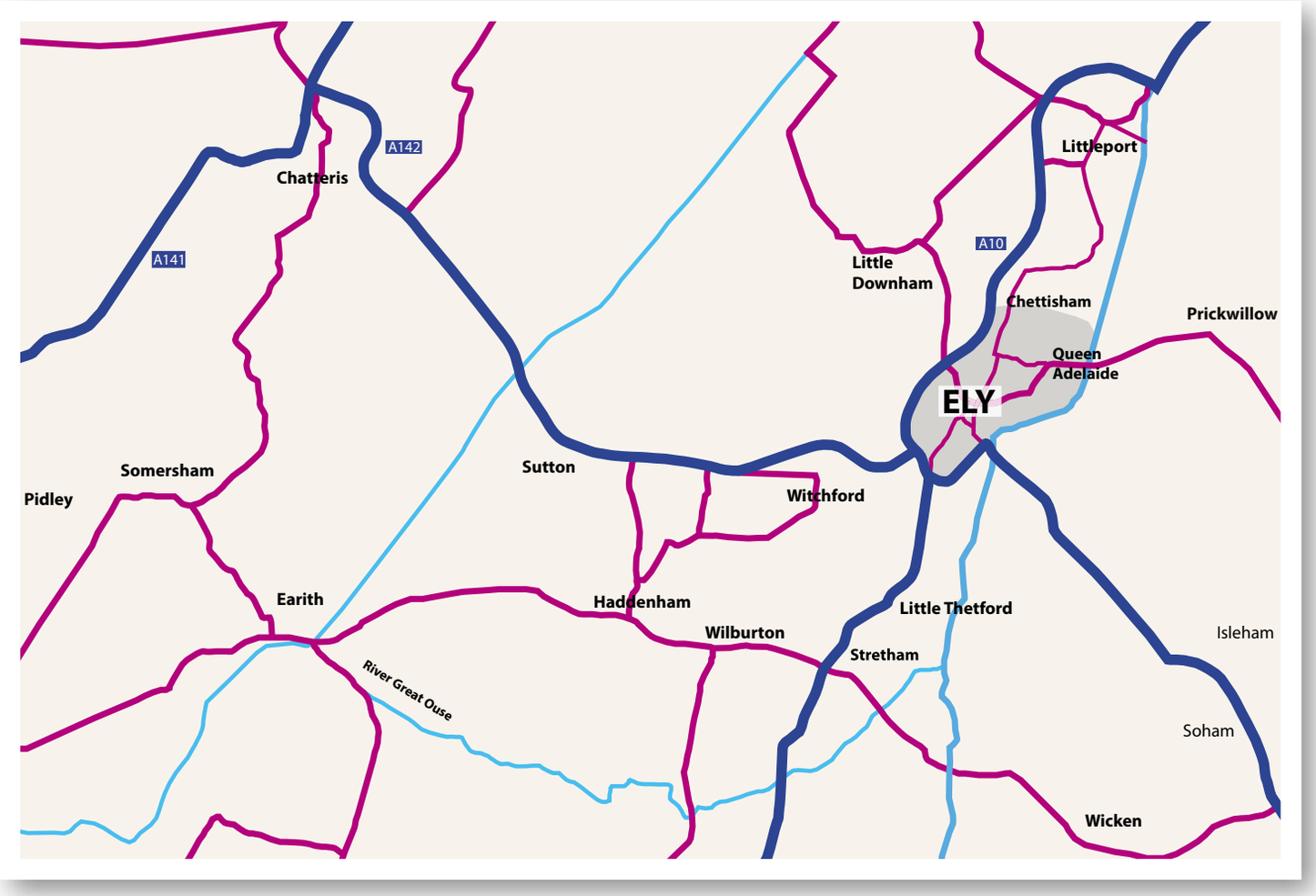

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Cover property – Wardy Hill: £675,000

THIS charming country property in Wardy Hill is now available for £675,000.

On the ground floor, you'll find a dining room with feature brick fireplace, lounge, study, fifth bedroom and a kitchen with integrated fridge.

Upstairs, the first floor is home to three bedrooms, the main bedroom containing an en suite, as well as a family bathroom featuring a bath with shower over. On the second floor, the loft is home to an additional bedroom.

Outside, you'll find a garage and a studio, as well as a gravelled driveway to the front, patio area and a rear garden laid to lawn, leading to an orchard, greenhouse and herb garden. There is 1.15 acres of gardens in total.

For further information contact David Clark & Company on (01353) 665020.

Stretham: £950pcm

THIS delightful cottage in Stretham is now available to rent for £950pcm.

On the ground floor, there is a entrance hallway, downstairs WC and a fitted kitchen with real wood worktops, range oven and ceramic sink. There are three reception rooms; room one with feature fireplace containing wood burning stove and large storage cupboard, reception room two with further feature fireplace and French doors and reception room three with vaulted ceiling.

The stairs lead to the first floor landing which provides access to modern bathroom with electric shower over bath, double bedroom three with built in storage cupboard and dual aspect windows letting in natural light, large double bedroom two and master double bedroom with feature fireplace and ensuite shower room with electric shower.

The property provides ample parking via the ample gated gravel driveway to the side and the property also boasts an enclosed rear garden.

For more information, call Platinum Properties on (01353) 664728

Witchford: £750pcm

THIS bungalow in Elm Close, Witchford, is available to rent from October for £750pcm

Inside, the main entrance hall leads to the recently fitted modern oak finish kitchen with electric oven and hob. Next door is the good sized sitting/dining room with feature fireplace.

To the rear of the property are two double bedrooms, with large fitted wardrobes offering plenty of built in storage, as well as a bathroom with white suite and brand new shower over bath.

The property also offers a delightful, sunny enclosed rear garden and a single garage en bloc with parking space in front.

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Call **Ryan Ferrara** on **01223 434231** or email **ryan.ferrara@cambridge-news.co.uk**

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NEW

Ely £385,000

A beautifully presented, extended semi detached house circa 1930. Accommodation comprises entrance porch, cloakroom, utility room, hallway, lounge, separate dining room, kitchen / family room, 3 bedrooms, bathroom, parking and gardens. The property also benefits from double glazing and gas central heating. EPR D.

NEW

Littleport £380,000

A detached family home on a private select development positioned on a generous corner plot. Comprises entrance hall, cloakroom, utility room, study, open plan kitchen/breakfast room, lounge, conservatory, 4 double bedrooms (1 ensuite), bathroom, ample parking and double garage. Within easy walking distance of primary schools and new secondary school due to open September 2017. EPR C.

Soham £335,000

Situated in the heart of Soham, this brand new 3-storey 4 bedroom house has been built to a high specification. Accommodation comprises entrance hallway, cloakroom, kitchen/dining room, lounge, 3 first floor bedrooms (1 ensuite), family bathroom and second floor bedroom with ensuite.

NEW

Wicken £475,000

Individual home built to a very high specification offering superb family accommodation with views of Wicken Mill and surrounding countryside, situated in a small prestigious development of just 3 properties. Entrance hall, cloakroom, lounge, kitchen / family room, bedroom 4 / office, 3 first floor bedrooms, bathroom, extensive courtyard parking area, garage & garden EPR C.

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Soham — Offers In Excess Of £425,000

A highly individual detached bungalow situated in a non estate location offering versatile family accommodation which includes entrance hallway, lounge, separate dining room, kitchen, utility room, conservatory, 4 bedrooms, 2 ensuites, family bathroom, double garage, parking and mature gardens. The property also benefits from gas central heating and double glazing. EPR C.

Littleport — £230,000

A well presented semi detached house situated on a small residential development. The accommodation briefly comprises entrance hallway, cloakroom, kitchen, lounge / dining room, conservatory, 3 bedrooms, family bathroom, garage, parking and gardens. The property also benefits from gas central heating and double glazing. EPR D.

Ely

A superbly presented detached home having been comprehensively refurbished by the current owners and situated within a highly regarded location close to St John's school. The property is offered for sale with no upward chain and to fully appreciate the extent of the accommodation and presentation a viewing is highly recommended. EPR C.

Soham — £289,950

Extended 1930's semi detached home in the heart of this well served Town within walking distance of many amenities and benefits from original features. Entrance hall, cloakroom, open plan kitchen/breakfast room, utility room, dining room, lounge, 3 bedrooms, superb family bathroom, off road vehicular parking & enclosed rear garden backing onto playing fields. EPR E.

Soham — £310,000

An immaculately presented detached family home situated on a private no through road within this popular Town. Accommodation comprising entrance hallway, cloakroom, open plan kitchen / dining room, lounge, study, 4 bedrooms, family bathroom together with carport, driveway and attractive South facing rear garden. EPR E.

Soham — £360,000

Charming substantially extended detached former railway workers cottage. Porch, hall, dining/family room, conservatory, lounge, additional reception room, kitchen, walk-through pantry/store, gf bathroom & wet room, utility, 4 bedrooms, bathroom, driveway & gardens. Rural location down a pleasant country lane. Views across countryside. No upward chain. EPR D.

Ely — £385,000

Situated within the prime City location of Waterside, convenient for the City Centre, mainline railway station, river and parks, Crimble Cottage is offered for sale with no upward chain. Accommodation comprises entrance hall, cloakroom, kitchen, separate dining room, lounge, 3 double bedrooms and shower room, together with enclosed rear garden, parking and garage. EPR D.

Ely — £219,950

A spacious end terrace property comprising entrance hall, re fitted cloakroom, kitchen, lounge / dining room, 2 double bedrooms and superb refitted shower room, together with courtyard style rear garden and parking. Property has the benefit of UPVC and double glazing and is an ideal first time purchase. EPR C.

Ely — £325,000

Situated in an established part of the City allowing easy access to the City amenities, this beautifully presented home has accommodation comprising entrance hallway, lounge/dining room, kitchen, rear lobby, 3 bedrooms and bathroom, off road parking and gardens. The property also benefits from gas central heating. EPR D.

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Soham £600 pcm

Mid-terrace 1 bedroom house in a cul-de-sac location. With an enclosed rear garden & driveway. EPC rating C.

Ely £650 pcm

Modern end of terrace 2 bedroom house. With a garden & 2 allocated parking spaces. EPC rating D

Ely £900 pcm

Detached 3 bed house, newly decorated with a good-sized garden, garage & driveway. EPC rating C.

Ely £1,250 pcm

High specification semi detached three bedroom house. With enclosed garden & off road parking. EPC rating D

Nordelph £750 pcm

Three bedroom cottage in a rural location, which has been newly renovated throughout. EPC rating TBC.

Wisbech £750 pcm

Three bedroom detached bungalow in a rural location. Comprises of garage & large garden. EPC rating: D.

Stretham £575 pcm

One bedroom apartment with an enclosed courtyard garden and off street parking. EPC rating C

Soham £650 pcm

Mid terraced 2 bedroom house. With Gas central heating, double glazed, enclosed rear garden. EPC: D

* Lettings fees apply

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Wardy Hill — £675,000

NEW

- A charming detached cottage situated in non-estate location
- Wood fitted kitchen
- Lounge with double height ceiling and log burner
- 4 Bedrooms
- Double garage
- The property itself sits on approximately 0.9 acres (STMS)
- Separate to the property there is a further 2 pieces of land totalling to 1.15 acres (STMS)
- EPC E

Sutton — £275,000

NEW

- A modern semi detached home
- Fitted kitchen/ breakfast room
- Lounge/diner with French doors opening onto the rear terace and garden
- 3 Bedrooms
- En suite shower to bedroom 1 and main bathroom
- Private rear garden
- Drive to garage
- EPC Band C

Ely — £230,000

NEW

- A modern semi-detached home
- Living room
- Fitted kitchen/ breakfast room
- 2 Bedrooms and bathroom
- There is a private rear garden and attached garage with driveway
- EPC Band C
- This property is owned by an employee of David Clark and Company
- Photos precede current tenancy

Prickwillow — £375,000

NEW

- A spacious detached family home built in 2014
- Study
- Fitted kitchen/diner
- 4 Double bedrooms with en-suite to master
- Fully enclosed garden
- Gravel/stone driveway to front providing off road parking for several vehicles
- EPC Band B
- Agents Note: The property is offered with an Architects Certificate

Haddenham — £245,000

NEW

- An established semi detached house
- Lounge
- Kitchen/dining room
- Utility room
- 3 Bedrooms and wet room
- Front and rear garden mainly to lawn with patio area
- Driveway provides off-road parking
- EPC Band D

Haddenham — £350,000

NEW

- A spacious 4 bed detached bungalow
- Lounge with feature fire place
- Fitted kitchen/ breakfast room
- Master bedroom with en-suite and bathroom
- Rear garden mainly laid to lawn with patio area
- Access to garage that has been converted to create a utility room and storage to front
- EPC rating D

Ely — £250,000

- An improved mid terrace home
- Updated kitchen
- Lounge/diner
- 3 Bedrooms and bathroom
- 2 Parking spaces nearby and private
- Enclosed rear garden
- EPC band: tba

Haddenham — £635,000

- A Victorian detached family home
- Fitted study/office
- Living room
- Kitchen/breakfast room
- 30' Garden/family room
- 4 Bedrooms
- En suite double shower and modern family bathroom
- Views to rear into the garden and to farmland from the elevated position
- EPC Band E

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Your Guide to Moving Home

Moving home can be a complicated business and in the hectic run up to the big day it is all too easy to forget something vital. The team offers their readers this handy checklist to help avoid any major pitfalls. We suggest you tick them off as you go....

1 4-2 WEEKS TO GO:

- ❑ **Packing** – start packing and sorting through your belongings. Now is a good time to de-clutter and pack items rarely used. Make sure you have plenty of sturdy boxes, bubble wrap and sticky tape.
- ❑ **Removal companies** – get estimates from removal companies, checking that comprehensive insurance cover is available against damage or loss. Is there a packing and unpacking service? Confirm the date of your move with the firm you have chosen.
- ❑ **Insurance** – check on your home contents insurance policies to ensure that you are covered for the move, and covered at your new address.
- ❑ **Utilities** – make arrangements for your gas and electricity meters (plus water meters where relevant) to be read and all your appliances to be disconnected on the day of your move. Arrange to take over gas and electricity at your new address, and make sure that all appliances will be properly fitted, plumbed or connected.
- ❑ **Telecommunications** – Notify your telephone and broadband provider and ask them to make the necessary arrangements for a final account at your present address, and for taking over or installing telephone and broadband facilities at your new home.
- ❑ **Post** – Look into re-directing your post for a few months to make sure you receive all relevant correspondence.
- ❑ **Children** – Look into the possibility of your children, especially young children, staying with family or friends on the day of the move.
- ❑ **Pets** – Make arrangements for any pets to be booked into a cattery or kennels if required. Having your pets microchipped is a good idea and if already microchipped, have the address changed to your new one. Your vet can advise on this.

2

Change of address – tell companies and organisations that you are moving!

Notify:

- ❑ Employer
- ❑ Inland revenue
- ❑ Local council
- ❑ Banks or Building Societies
- ❑ Credit companies, store cards & other accounts
- ❑ Gas, Electricity and water boards
- ❑ Insurance companies
- ❑ Land / mobile phones
- ❑ Internet and cable / satellite TV providers
- ❑ Doctor, Dentist and Opticians
- ❑ DVLA
- ❑ Veterinary surgery
- ❑ TV Licensing

3 1 WEEK TO GO:

- ❑ **Delivery address** – change delivery address of your Cambridge News, milk, groceries and fuel to your new address as appropriate.
- ❑ **Laundry** – do any last minute laundry that you can – have you arranged for a plumber to disconnect your washing machine correctly?
- ❑ **Kitchen cupboards** – go through your kitchen cupboards and throw out anything not in date. Also check that all jars and bottles are correctly sealed before packing.
- ❑ **Fridges / Freezers** – empty and clean out in preparation for moving. If you are moving a freezer and its contents, turn it up to maximum for a couple of days before you move.
- ❑ **Valuables / documents** – put these in safe place for moving day

4 2-1 DAYS TO GO:

- ❑ **Packing** – pack a bag for overnight essentials and toiletries and finish all remaining packing into boxes. Remember to label which room each box is destined for.
- ❑ **Snack box** – pack a box for the kitchen to include essentials like tea, coffee and sugar, as well as the kettle and mugs! Also include other snacks as necessary.
- ❑ **Dismantle and disconnect** – take down curtains, fixtures and fittings and disconnect white goods ready for transport.
- ❑ **Outdoor items** – make sure that these are stacked together and ready to be moved.
- ❑ **Mobile** – place your mobile on charge the night before moving and ensure that all relevant people have your number.

5 ON MOVING DAY:

AT YOUR OLD ADDRESS:

- ❑ Strip beds and pack bedding and nightclothes.
- ❑ Finish packing toiletries box.
- ❑ Direct removal firm personnel or friends helping you move as to what needs to be done.
- ❑ Turn off electric appliances.
- ❑ Disconnect cooker.
- ❑ Turn off boiler / central heating.
- ❑ Turn off water.
- ❑ Read gas meter.
- ❑ Read electricity meter.
- ❑ Secure all windows.
- ❑ Lock all doors.
- ❑ Make final checks and leave key as arranged with new owners.

AT YOUR NEW HOME:

- ❑ Open up & have a look around the new house.
- ❑ Locate fuse box, gas and electric meter and stop cock for reference.
- ❑ Take readings on gas, electric and water meters as appropriate.
- ❑ Organise the direction of boxes to appropriate rooms.
- ❑ Check the van after all is unloaded.
- ❑ Make the beds up for the evening.
- ❑ Sit down and relax – unpack the other boxes the next day.

ELY news

Reader Offers

SAILING FROM HARWICH, TILBURY ON MARCO POLO, MAGELLAN

Land of the Northern Lights to Norway Cruise

15 days from £1359 Sailing from Tilbury on board *Magellan*, 18 February 2018

A classic voyage north in search of celestial wonders of the Aurora Borealis.

Cruise highlights

- ✓ Explore Amsterdam and Ålesund
- ✓ Tromsø, home to Norway's 'Arctic Cathedral' and Polarmuseum
- ✓ Discover the remote region of Alta
- ✓ Remote Honningsvåg is close to Europe's northern most point
- ✓ Discover Viking capital Trondheim
- ✓ Clear nights bring chances to view the stunning Aurora Borealis
- ✓ Call in Åndalsnes on Romsdalfjord
- ✓ Discover historic Bergen
- ✓ Traditional British & International cuisine, stylish entertainment, guest lecturers & on-board leisure facilities
- ✓ 14 nights' full board accommodation on board *Magellan*

*Book by 31 Oct 2017. Subject to availability & may be withdrawn any time. Price shown includes 30% discount, 2nd person pays half that price.

Baltic Cities & St Petersburg Cruise

13 days from £1159 Sailing from Harwich on board *Marco Polo*, 4 June 2018

Explore a quartet of delightful capitals, the chance to visit Berlin from Warnemünde and enthralling St Petersburg.

Cruise highlights

- ✓ Wonderful wonderful Copenhagen
- ✓ Discover Tallinn, capital of Estonia
- ✓ Visit St Petersburg, the 'Venice of the North'
- ✓ Finnish capital Helsinki doubled for Moscow in many a Cold War movie
- ✓ Stockholm is a mesmerising collection of tiny islets
- ✓ Traditional British & International cuisine, stylish entertainment, guest lecturers & on-board leisure facilities
- ✓ 12 nights' full board accommodation on board *Marco Polo*

*Book by 31 Oct 2017. Subject to availability & may be withdrawn any time. Price shown includes 30% discount, 2nd person pays half that price.

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Cirque du Soleil OVO

At the Royal Albert Hall

2 days from £175.00, 10 February 2018

The spectacular performance of Cirque du Soleil has to be seen to be believed. In 2018 they present OVO, a stunning new show, a blend of astonishing acrobatics, awesome aerial acts, spectacular sets and amazing characters with flamboyant costumes – all set to wonderful music – in the awe-inspiring Royal Albert Hall. It's a feast for the senses!

Highlights & inclusions

- A Circle ticket for 'OVO' at the Royal Albert Hall (upgrades available)
- One nights' bed and English breakfast accommodation at a four-star hotel with a leisure centre in the Greater London area
- A visit to London's West End with time for shopping and sightseeing
- Coach travel from the local area
- Escorted by a friendly tour manager

Classical Spectacular

A Royal Albert Hall Concert Break!

2 days from £145.00, 19 November 2017

Don't miss the UK's most popular classical music show. This unique combination of the very best classical music, thrilling multi-coloured laser displays and an electrifying finale just gets better and better!

Highlights & inclusions

- A Choir seat in the Royal Albert Hall for 'Classical Spectacular' (ticket upgrades available)
- A sightseeing tour of London or time to shop and sightsee
- One night's three-star standard bed and buffet breakfast hotel accommodation in Central London
- Coach travel from the local area
- Escorted by a friendly tour manager

Christmas with *Katherine Jenkins*

at the Royal Albert Hall

2 days from £149.00, 18 December 2017

Journey with us to London's iconic Royal Albert Hall and start your Christmas celebration in style with singing sensation Katherine Jenkins, as she performs a magnificent concert of seasonal music and songs.

Highlights & inclusions

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- A visit to Central London
- One night's bed and buffet breakfast in a good hotel in the Heathrow/ Greater London area
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At The Royal Albert Hall, London

2 days from £139.00, 20 December 2017

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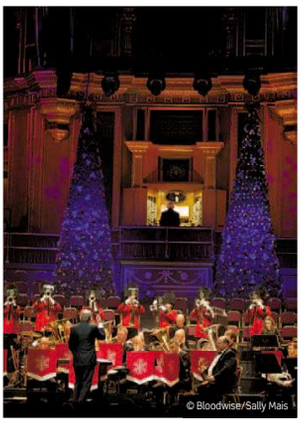
Highlights & inclusions

- A choir seat for Classic Carols with Alan Titchmarsh (upgrade available)
- A visit to Windsor with the chance to visit the Castle
- One night's bed and breakfast accommodation in a three-star standard hotel in the Greater London area
- Coach travel from the local area
- Escorted by a friendly tour manager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Christmas with the Stars

Carols in the Royal Albert Hall

2 days from £145.00, 5 December 2017

A starry night of brass bands, melodious choirs, classic carols and sing-along favourites with TV's top stars.

Highlights & inclusions

- A Circle Seat at the Royal Albert Hall for 'Christmas with the Stars' (ticket upgrades available)
- A short panoramic London sightseeing tour
- Shopping and sightseeing in London
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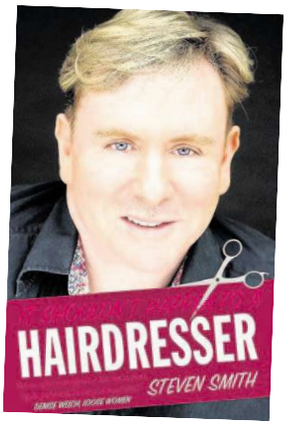
BOOKSHELF

CELEBRITY HAIRDRESSER STEVEN SMITH TAKES HANNAH STEPHENSON BEHIND THE SCENES IN THE WORLD OF SHOWBIZ HAIRDRESSING

I want to do Theresa May's hair – a good razor cut

Years of caring for the coiffures of the rich and famous has given Steven Smith plenty of material for a book – and now he'd love to get his hands on the PM's locks



HE'S CUT, styled and blow-dried the hair of celebrities from London to Hollywood, from Katie Price, Tamara Beckwith and Denise Welch, to John Travolta.

As an insider to the world of celebrity, Steven Smith has seen the best (and worst) of showbiz people; the drug-fuelled parties, the tantrums and the triumphs, as he rose to fame as a makeover artist during the late Nineties.

He worked on the Lorraine Kelly show, transforming GMTV viewers into their favourite stars, even making over Lorraine herself, transforming her into movie legend Elizabeth Taylor.

But his speciality was blondes.

"I used to be known as the 'blonde transformer' and it became a joke that if you stood next to me, you'd turn blonde," he says, laughing. "I was particularly good at transforming people into blondes and doing big, glamorous hair."

Many of his showbiz anecdotes are featured in his book, It Shouldn't Happen To A Hairdresser, and actress Denise Welch, who has been a pal for more than 30 years, writes the foreword.

He's reluctant to reveal the worst celebrity he's ever styled, though.

"It very often depends on the mood they're in. I did Britt Ekland and she was appalling. She clicked her fingers at me and asked me to tie her shoe. I couldn't believe what I was hearing. I just said, 'Certainly, your majesty' and everybody in the room burst out laughing, but she didn't quite understand why it was so funny."

He also recalls his encounters with a young Katie Price, then known as Jordan, who had a foul mouth and forthright attitude, and often battled with him over her hairstyles.

"One day I did this look for her which looked like RuPaul's love child – it was so big – and she loved it. She liked big hair, not a girl-next-door, softer look."

"Katie's wonderful, amazing. She managed to take straw and spin it into gold," he continues. "She took exhibitionism and very little talent and it made her a huge star. Working with her was interesting, because you never knew who you were getting.

"There were two different personalities – one minute she would be adorable and the next minute Jordan would kick in, the exhibitionist would come out and she'd want attention."

He recalls styling Denise Van Outen's hair on numerous occasions during her early career, when she was on The Big Breakfast, and claims he was blanked by her at an after-show party when he went to congratulate her on her first night as Roxie Hart in Chicago in London's West End.

Hairy moments with Britt Ekland, Katie Price and David Hasselhoff

PM Theresa May 'needs a softer look'

Another time, he recalls being asked to do the hair of some of the stars of Baywatch, including The Hoff.

"David Hasselhoff was incredibly two-faced. One minute he was calling himself a vegetarian and the next he was calling for a full English breakfast. Those people are not difficult, but they are interesting."

After working in numerous London salons, Steven spent eight years in Los Angeles, working in up-market locations including Rodeo Drive, going to celebrity parties where he'd mix with the likes of Madonna and Kelly Le Brock, and living a glamorous life.

"I blow-dried [Barbra] Streisand's hair and John Travolta's hair. I hung out with a lot of them. It was an interesting time."

He says the attitude to hairdressing in Beverly Hills was completely different to that of the UK.

"We were very technical in the UK. We were interested in the graduated bob and how the hair was going to condition. Over there, if you said to a high-profile client, 'It's going to be a graduated bob with some soft highlights,' they'd go, 'What?' They just wanted to show you a picture of Flamingo Road or Dynasty, and that was what they wanted.

"There's a saying, 'It's a comb, not a wand!' They might pull a picture out of Demi Moore in Ghost and say, 'I want it cut short like that,' but it was at the time that Roseanne Barr had the same haircut, and they never pulled out a picture of her."

Hairdressing has become a science now, he reflects.

"You see these girls on TOWIE and other reality shows, and the girls' hair is a coiffured masterpiece. They've got hair extensions that have been bleached within an inch of their life stuck in their head. It takes hours to put them in. Then they've got colour.

"The maintenance on them is unbelievable. It's become a completely different craft.

"You see The Real Housewives Of Cheshire and they've got these amazing hairdos, but all the bits and pieces take a lot of work."

Steven, who is now a part-time hairdresser, still writes on beauty and showbiz, and follows hair trends.

"A lot are going in for graduated bobs, which have made a huge comeback. Extensions are terribly popular. Women want to look as glamorous as possible."

And there is one woman whose hair he would love to cut – Theresa May.

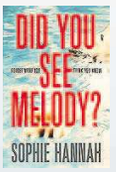
"I'd give her hair a good razor cut, make it look a bit more approachable. If you put some lowlights in and created a softer, sexier look, more people would warm to her."

■ **It Shouldn't Happen To A Hairdresser by Steven Smith is published in paperback by The Book Guild on Monday, priced £8.99.**

LATEST TITLES

DID YOU SEE MELODY? by Sophie Hannah, Hodder & Stoughton, £12.99 (ebook £8.99)

★★★★★



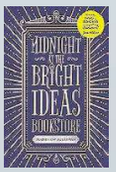
SOPHIE HANNAH can do crime novels – she is responsible for filling the shoes of Agatha Christie and bringing back Poirot. But with Did You See Melody? she takes a twisty plot, revs it up a gear with witty dialogue and delivers a psychological thriller.

At first it seems a friendly tale of escapism, but the novel quickly pivots once Cara Burrows glimpses Melody Chapa – a young girl who is believed to be dead and whose parents are currently behind bars charged with her murder.

As Cara's holiday spirals into danger, Hannah inserts long sections of TV manuscripts, blog posts and diary entries to provide details of the Melody Chapa case. These can feel convoluted; but the tension builds steadily throughout to a last line which is guaranteed to plunge readers into uncertainty.

MIDNIGHT AT THE BRIGHT IDEAS BOOKSTORE by Matthew Sullivan, William Heinemann, £14.99 (ebook £9.99)

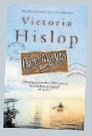
★★★★★



BOOKSELLER Lydia's dull world is turned upside down after a young man commits suicide in her shop leaving a box of books. As she flips through them she finds he has cut seemingly random holes in the pages, and she soon stumbles upon a hidden message that will not only help her shed light on Joey's past and the link to her own life, but also provides fresh clues to the brutal triple murder that defined her childhood.

Can she finally find the killer and come to terms with the past? Award-winning short story writer Matthew Sullivan's debut novel is a cleverly constructed thriller with enough twists to keep readers guessing (almost) until the end. The grim storyline focuses on the dark side of human passion, and the description of the gruesome murder is not for the faint-hearted – but the feisty heroine and the horrid family secrets revealed layer by layer make this a compelling read.

BOOKS CHART



1. Cartes Postales from Greece: Victoria Hislop
2. Birdcage Walk: Helen Dunmore
3. The Last Tudor: Philippa Gregory
4. Histories of Nations: Peter Furtado
5. Slow Horses: Mick Herron
6. A Place Called Perfect: Helena Duggan
7. The Dry: Jane Harper
8. Nadiya's British Food Adventure: Nadiya Hussain
9. The Couple Next Door: Shari Lapena
10. The Underground Railroad: Colson Whitehead

CHART COURTESY OF WATERSTONES

GETAWAY

TRAVEL NEWS

LATEST TRAVEL ADVICE, OFFERS AND NEWS

ROYAL ANNIVERSARY VOYAGE

THE 50th anniversary of the revered Cunard liner QE2 is to be marked next month by a special voyage of her near namesake, Queen Elizabeth, pictured.

During five specially themed days during a 17-night cruise to Venice, guests will be treated to gala menus inspired by the liner, and talks from special guests who each have personal connections with QE2.

Celebrations culminate on QE2 Day – September 20 – exactly 50 years since the ship was launched by Queen Elizabeth.

Events will include a QE2 ball, and a historical retrospective of the ship – which retired in 2008 – hosted in Queen Elizabeth's 850-seat Royal Court Theatre. The voyage departs from Southampton on September 8.

THE ONLY WAY IS TRAVELODGE

TRAVELODGE officially opened its second hotel in Romford town centre this week, where hit reality TV show The Only Way Is Essex is filming its 21st series.

To celebrate the launch, Travelodge has released 15,000 rooms from an opening rate of £45. Go to travelodge.co.uk

ABBA

CELEBRATE MUSIC'S SUPER TROUPERS

SAY thank you for the music at a major new immersive pop exhibition in London this winter.

ABBA: Super Troupers will take visitors into the world of the hit-making Swedish sensation.

In association with ABBA The Museum in Stockholm, exhibits will include previously unseen material such as original costumes and album artwork.

The exhibition opens at the Southbank Centre (aptly, not far from Waterloo!) on December 14 and runs to April 29. Admission will be £15-£25 and tickets are on sale now. southbankcentre.co.uk

Swede dreams

Packing plenty of cake and coffee, **JULIAN WELLEN** paddles out on a Scandi adventure

Exploring the myriad islands of Bohuslan, West Sweden, by sea kayak. Inset left, flounder fillet in brown butter with shrimp and horseradish at the Michelin-starred Sjömagasinet restaurant in Gothenburg

THE Scandinavians seem to have special words for everything and we love adopting them – from that old Swedish favourite, smörgåsbord, to newcomers, such as the Danish hygge.

The one that will soon be on everyone's lips has to be "fika" – coffee and cakes to be taken any time, anywhere.

A well-known Swedish home store has a cafe called Fika, in which customers can take a break from negotiating its labyrinthine layout.

But visiting Gothenburg and West Sweden, I learned that the best place for fika is in a sea kayak.

I set out to experience the region's coastal lifestyle and cuisine and the view from the plane, approaching Gothenburg, revealed a stunning coastline, dotted with islands and bays.

Just over an hour-and-a-half's drive up the coast is Fiskebäckskil, in Bohuslän province, a pretty former fishing village – now mostly holiday homes – where we were staying in Slipens, a new hotel with cool Scandi décor in a 100-year-old shipyard.

(A handy tip on pronunciation that I picked up is "k" and "sk" are sometimes pronounced as "sh"... and sometimes not.)

Slipens also runs the excellent Brygghuset seafood restaurant, featuring the Swedish staple, herring, in numerous tasty guises. After a delicious buffet lunch we headed out to Grundsund, a couple of miles along the coast where we were booked in for our kayak trip.

Christina Ingemarsdotter of Kajak i Grundsund has been paddling kayaks for 40 years and clearly loves it just as much now as when she first picked up a paddle.

After a land-based lesson and a practice paddle around the harbour using muscles we didn't even know we had, we headed out to sea. The wind had got up and we paddled hard to get into the lee of the numerous small islands of smooth, pink granite, rising from the water like great hippos' backs.

Once in the calmer water we could enjoy the peace and beauty of the area, the sea-level opening up a completely different perspective on life and the landscape.

We finally pulled over to the rocks for fika, looking for a likely picnic spot – or even a cafe – until Christina threw open the hatch on her kayak to reveal a flask of coffee and a bowl of cinnamon buns.

What better way to enjoy fika than floating gently on the water with sea and rocks around us and starfish visible in the clear water beneath?

Once back at Fiskebäckskil, another feast of fish lay ahead in Brygghuset, which also has a whisky bar with 1,500 malts – another reason, if you needed one – to stay.

My otherwise perfect sleep was broken by a dramatic light at 4.30am and a stunning sunrise – prelude to a clear, sunny day.

From Fiskebäckskil it's a short ferry hop to Lysekil, where Lars Marstone and Adriaan Von Plasse run mussel safaris on their 67-year-old boat. We sailed, happily soaked by the waves, until we reached Lars's idyllic island, where his wife, Majvor, was waiting.

While Adriaan cooked up mussels in wine, cream and chopped veg, Lars opened some oysters – which divers harvest by hand – as fresh as they come. Of course the meal was finished with a fika.

Lysekil is also home to the Havets Hus aquarium, where you can see and touch some of the local species of sealife and learn about the valuable efforts to preserve their habitats and restock the waters.

Back at Fiskebäckskil, we checked in at the Gullmarsstrand spa hotel with its waterside yoga studio and a hot tub on the jetty, where you can relax before plunging into the sea for an invigorating swim before returning to the tub to enjoy the all-over tingle of the hot water. Finish off with a sauna and shower and you're ready for anything.

Sitting and watching the sun set over the water as children fished from the jetty was the perfect end to an excellent meal at the hotel restaurant and to our all-too short stay on the coast.

We were heading to the city, and Gothenburg proved the perfect place for a city break, with its old "long streets", just west of Linnégatan, that have gone from being a rough, edgy part of town to a hub of stylish shops, hipster bars, courtyard cafes and designer shops for anyone seeking some Scandi chic.

Also reinvented, the excellent Comfort Hotel looks out over the harbour and ferry terminal and has a deservedly popular rooftop bar with the best views in town.

Like some of our own large ports, Gothenburg has had to reinvent itself after the loss of its shipbuilding industry, becoming a cultural and hi-tech hub – a far cry from its early days as a fortified trading colony with walls to keep out the marauding Danes.

The 17th century moats are now peaceful canals, where boats will take you on a sightseeing tour around the old city and out into the river Gota. You could even paddle round in a kayak – fika not provided, although the local Hagabullen (a Frisbee-sized cinnamon bun) would be ideal. The city's beautiful botanic gardens offer a space to recharge your batteries with a spectacular rose garden and the palm house – built in 1878 and inspired by Crystal Palace – filled with exotic plants and cacti.

The Feskekôrka (fish church), Gothenburg

Back on the seafood theme, the Michelin-starred Sjömagasinet, a short ferry ride down the river, provided an unforgettable waterfront meal – as unforgettable as the rest of this beautiful part of the world.

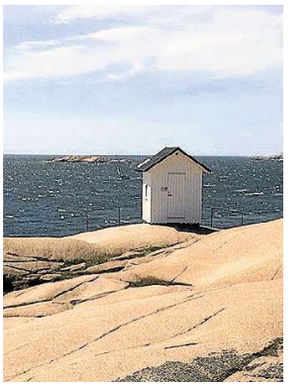
NEED TO KNOW

■ **JULIAN WELLEN** stayed in Sweden as a guest of bmi regional, West Sweden Tourist Board and Goteborg & Co. Details of attractions and hotels at www.westsweden.com and www.goteborg.com

■ Fly with bmi regional from Birmingham to Gothenburg from £88 one way – inclusive of 23kg hold luggage, drinks and snacks on board, allocated seating and speedy 30-minute check-ins. See www.flybmi.com

are made of this

Fika – cinnamon buns and coffee – on board a sea kayak



Pink granite rocks overlook the sea in Lysekil, above, and Haga Nygata street, Gothenburg, below, a hipster hotspot

LATE BREAKS

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ENJOY a seven-night holiday staying at the 3* Blue Tree Resort Lake Buena Vista, Orlando. Price from £536 includes return flights from Manchester on September 12 and seven nights' accommodation in a one-bedroom Executive Villa on a self-catering basis. Book online at www.traveltrolley.co.uk or call on 0208 843 4400.

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Price includes return flights from Birmingham on September 13 and seven nights accommodation on a half-board basis. Book at www.onthebeach.co.uk or call 0871 474 3000.

ELY news

Reader Offers

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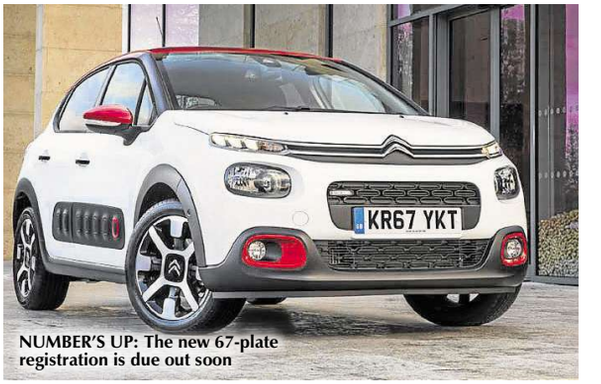

NUMBER'S UP: The new 67-plate registration is due out soon

WE'RE on the eve of another round of the orgy of madness and delusion that is the new plate registration and I want to focus on something it puts into stark relief – depreciation.

Think of just about anything you put sizeable chunks of money into, such as your mortgage or pension and, all things being equal, they should go up in value over time. But not your car.

Fair enough, a car is used and so simple wear and tear means it will be worth less when you come to sell it, but I cannot think of any other consumer item we buy which has such rapid and expensive depreciation as the four wheels sitting in your drive.

And with the imminent arrival of the 67-plate registration, the latest in this twice-a-year change we've have had since the T-plate arrived in 1999, I think it is long overdue for someone to ask the question – is it really doing any favours to either the consumer or the trade?

In any given year perhaps as many as a third of the registrations happen in March and September with a lull before and after them.

In recent years March has averaged around 400,000 cars, September slightly less, but together they still account for about one in three new cars sold in a 12-month period.

Depending on who you talk to, a rough guestimate leads to the conclusion that perhaps as many as a fifth of all new cars registered are not actually bought by a customer but taken as demonstrators, 'manager's specials' or whatever. It doesn't seem to matter so long as they get a number plate and are in paper terms, sold. But then, of course, they instantly become second hand.

In simple terms, far too many cars are chasing far too few customers but these ruses are a way for dealers to hit the sales targets set by their manufacturers and qualify for the bonuses which provide such a big part of their income.

But put that third of annual registrations and that fifth of cars with no real owner and you have the ingredients for huge and instant depreciation, not just on those cars but on all the ones now sitting in your driveway.

Don't believe me? Well, the other day I did a short exercise looking at nearly new cars which are on sale within 10 miles of where I live and here are just a few examples I found.

A Volvo XC90 2.0 TD with just 35 miles on at £49,000 which is some £6,500 off its list price. A Jag XE 2.0 diesel R-Sport auto with 11 miles under its wheels, £30,584 against £35,285 brand new.

Take the other end of the market where in a few minutes I found a Dacia Sandero Stepway, not a bad family car, with just 10 miles and on at £10,290 against £11,795 or a Vauxhall Adam 1.2 Energised with 10 miles and on at £10,500 against £14,725.

It just shows the level and scale of depreciation which ultimately, anyone buying a new car has to fund.

And every time there is a new registration the ones with the previous plate lose more value.

So why do we do it twice a year and does anyone think it is working in the consumer's favour?

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2010 10	Seat Ibiza 1.4 Sport 3Dr 28K miles	£5,995
2012 12	Kia Ceed 1.6 Tdi Estate AC 48k Miles	£5,995
2012 12	Kia Ceed 1.6 Tdi Estate AC 107K Miles	£4,450
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2006 O6	C4 1.6 Sx 5DR 81K Miles	£2,450

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2013 13	Fiesta 1.6 ST2 Half Leather 48k Miles	£9,950
2014 14	Focus 1.6 Tdci Zetec Navigator Sat Navigation 30K miles	£8,995
2013 63	Focus 1.6 Tdci Zetec 5Dr 29K miles	£8,995
2014 14	C-Max 1.6 Zetec 23K miles	£8,995
2014 14	Focus 1.0 Ecoboost 125ps 6 Speed Zetec 5Dr 28K miles	£8,995
2013 62	Focus 1.6 Tdci Titanium 5Dr 43K miles	£8,495
2011 11	Fiesta 1.4 Tdci Zetec 5Dr 58K miles	£5,695
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2014 14	Micra 1.2 Acenta Sat Nav 5DR Automatic 12K Miles	£8,850
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2009 59	Toyota Hi-Lux 2.5 D-4D 120 HL2 Double Cab Hard Top Ac 28K Miles	£9,950+VAT
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2007 57	Vauxhall Combo 1.3 Cdti 122k Miles	£2,450+VAT
2008 58	Vauxhall Corsa 1.3 Cdti Van 58K miles	£3,695+VAT
2008 58	Vauxhall Corsa 1.3 Cdti Van 95K miles	£3,250+VAT
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Quality counts for the new-look Qashqai

FROM pencil line to production line, the Nissan Qashqai is as British as they come.

Conceived at Nissan's design studio in London, engineered at its technical centre at Cranfield in Bedfordshire and built at the Nissan factory in Sunderland, the Qashqai has made millions for UK plc.

Since it first appeared 10 years ago some 2.3 million have been made, most have been exported and 450,000 snapped up in Britain.

It's our favourite crossover and last month was number three in the nation's Top 10 new car sales charts, pipped to the post only by the Ford Focus and VW Golf – both of which are made in Germany.

Now there's a new Qashqai on the way with the second generation model – launched in 2014 – getting a heavy facelift inside and out.

As mid-life makeovers go the changes are radical and see the latest Qashqai with sharper lines, a reshaped bonnet and grille and some shiny body highlights.

There's also a new range topper in the form of a Tekna+ model which comes with Nappa leather upholstery in a distinctive 3D pattern, a high-end Bose sound system and a sporty-looking D-shaped steering wheel.

In such guise it is now possible to spend more than £30,000 on a Qashqai – a far cry from the £23,249 it cost to get behind the wheel of the poshest Qashqai back in 2007.

IMPROVED: The new Qashqai

Back then the range started from a shade under £13,500. Now it kicks off at £19,295 but what's onboard is light years ahead and the latest Qashqai is still a pacesetter.

The Qashqai Tekna+ 1.5-litre diesel tips the scales at £30,325 and that includes a Vivid Blue metallic paint job which accentuates the new car's lines a treat.

For a family hatch-cum-SUV the cabin is very upmarket – albeit it overly black and that included the headlining – and the seats, taken from a specification devised by NASA are exceptionally comfortable.

There's carbon-effect trim in the dash, chrome handles on the doors and the technology features the latest generation of the NissanConnect system which uses a seven-inch touchscreen for full connectivity and satellite navigation.

The Bose digital sound system is genuinely impressive with eight speakers front and rear. The tonal quality is quite exceptional, even at motorway speeds.

Other smart technology includes automatic emergency braking, automated parking, cross traffic sensors when reversing and an auto hold function with the electronic parking brake.

On the road it feels sharper to handle than the previous Qashqai and noise levels have been improved although mechanically there is little difference.

The 1.5-litre diesel is well proven across the Nissan-Renault Alliance and with 110ps on tap results in 0 to 60 time of 11.9 seconds, a maximum of 113mphg and an official fuel return of 74.3mpg with emissions of 99g/km no matter what size of wheel is fitted – and the Tekna+ sat on 19-inch rims.

We saw an average of 51.9 to the gallon which is well acceptable for a family car.

The Bose set up eats into the luggage space a little and the Tekna+ has a boot of 401 litres extending to 1,569 – about a rucksack less than you'll get in other grades of Qashqai.

As before, it is well composed and behaves without issue either in traffic or when cruising which makes the Qashqai an exceptional all-rounder.

Few cars can hit the mark in such fashion and with the current trend for upmarket models, breaking the £30,000 barrier will prove no obstacle.

Indeed, Nissan calculates that almost half of all Qashqais sold in the next few months will be high specification models.

Without doubt, the Qashqai's rein as king of the crossovers looks set to continue for many a year to come.

New Airstream caravans are again a big pull

THE American Airstream brand will officially relaunch in the UK at October's Motorhome and Caravan Show 2017, the UK's largest leisure vehicle show.

After a couple of years' absence, Airstream returns with the appointment of a new UK distributor.

Three new models for the UK include the flagship four-berth Colorado retailing at £99,195, as well as the smaller Yukon and Missouri models.

Manufactured since the 1930s, 70 per cent of Airstreams made are still in use around the world, with celebrity owners including Brad Pitt, Colin Farrell, Tom Hanks, Sandra Bullock and Matthew McConaughey.

It is estimated that almost £2 billion was spent on caravan holidays across Great Britain in 2016, with over 50 million nights spent in caravans each year.

The industry employs some 130,000 people and there are over 1.7 million caravaners and motorhomers in the UK.

An estimated 555,000 touring caravans, 205,000 motorhomes and over 300,000 caravan holiday homes are in use in the UK.

The Motorhome and Caravan Show 2017 runs from October 17 to 22 at Birmingham's NEC.

Tickets are on sale now.

Car thieves get smart with new technology

IT was just too good to last – the car thieves are wising up after a period of being frustrated by modern technology.

Gone are the days of the hot wire nasties who could make your car disappear in seconds.

Now criminals are more likely to be computer savvy, warns vehicle tracing experts Tracker.

Recent reports indicate an increasing new trend in vehicle theft termed 'relay attack', that allows criminals to overcome existing vehicle security technology, such as immobilisers and keyless entry systems.

This new style attack uses a relay device and involves two criminals working together.

One stands near the car being targeted and the other stands near the front door of the owner's home to get in range of the key fob – often left on hallway tables or kitchen worktops.

The device then picks up the key fob signal from inside the house and relays it to the car. Using this method, thieves are then able to drive away in a stolen vehicle in a matter of seconds.

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In 2016 Jacfest played host to UK house music legends; Seb Fontaine, Allister Whitehead & Jon Pleased Wimmin.

Now with the bit firmly between their teeth, they have pushed the production and the head line roster to another level!

On Saturday 7 October they bring you two of the biggest Old Skool House DJ's in the world; Norman Jay MBE & Jeremy Healy, backed up by Space Ibiza's resident; Jonathan Ulysses and all round house music legends; The Hoxton Whores.

This annual event is held at
The Coach House Hotel near Royston,
which is completely transformed into a clubbers paradise for this very special occasion.

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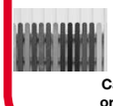

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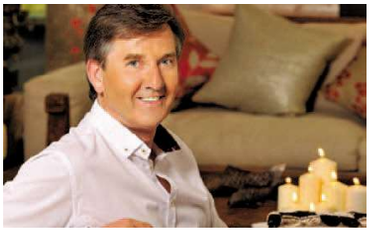

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2 days from £195.00, 17 December 2017

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Highlights & inclusions

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Highlights & inclusions

- A visit to Stratford-upon-Avon
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SCOPE OF ROLE: LEVEL 3 TEACHING ASSISTANT AND MINI BUS CHAPERONE - MADINGLEY
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The salary range for this post is £25,298 - £29,301 per annum which equates to points 34 - 39 on the University's single pay spine. Incremental progression up the range is discretionary. This post is pensionable under the College's attractive contributory pension scheme and other benefits include free lunches when on duty, subsidised membership of the College gym, and access to childcare voucher and cycle to work schemes.

As the first point of contact with HMRC, Pension providers and the College's payroll software providers, the successful applicant will be a highly organised individual with strong communication and influencing skills, who is a strong team player. Likely to have proven experience of working in payroll or finance, an in-depth understanding of the payroll cycle and an understanding of the manual calculations of tax and NI deductions, qualifications and/or membership of the Chartered Institute of Payroll Professionals (CiPP) is advantageous.

An application form and job description with person specification can be downloaded from the College website at http://www.sid.cam.ac.uk/aboutus/personnel/. In order to apply, please submit a completed application form with covering letter outlining your suitability for the post, either by e-mail to jobs@sid.cam.ac.uk or by post to the HR Manager, Sidney Sussex College, Sidney Street, Cambridge, CB2 3HU.

Sidney Sussex College
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Highlights & inclusions

- A Circle ticket for 'OVO' at the Royal Albert Hall (upgrades available)
- One nights' bed and English breakfast accommodation at a four-star hotel with a leisure centre in the Greater London area
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Classical Spectacular

A Royal Albert Hall Concert Break!

2 days from £145.00, 19 November 2017

Don't miss the UK's most popular classical music show. This unique combination of the very best classical music, thrilling multi-coloured laser displays and an electrifying finale just gets better and better!

Highlights & inclusions

- A Choir seat in the Royal Albert Hall for 'Classical Spectacular' (ticket upgrades available)
- A sightseeing tour of London or time to shop and sightsee
- One night's three-star standard bed and buffet breakfast hotel accommodation in Central London
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Christmas with *Katherine Jenkins*

at the Royal Albert Hall

2 days from £149.00, 18 December 2017

Journey with us to London's iconic Royal Albert Hall and start your Christmas celebration in style with singing sensation Katherine Jenkins, as she performs a magnificent concert of seasonal music and songs.

Highlights & inclusions

- A choir seat for Christmas with Katherine Jenkins at the Royal Albert Hall (Upgrades available)
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Classic Carols with Alan Titchmarsh

At The Royal Albert Hall, London

2 days from £139.00, 20 December 2017

Set yourself up for Christmas with a visit to the Royal Albert Hall and an evening of traditional Christmas carols hosted by the presenter Alan Titchmarsh.

Highlights & inclusions

- A choir seat for Classic Carols with Alan Titchmarsh (upgrade available)
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- One night's bed and breakfast accommodation in a three-star standard hotel in the Greater London area
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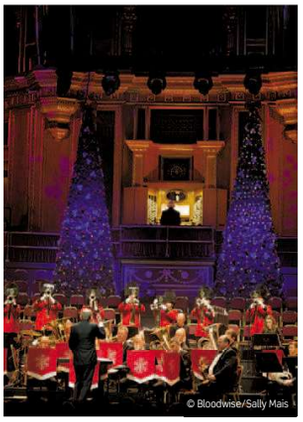
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Christmas with the Stars

Carols in the Royal Albert Hall

2 days from £145.00, 5 December 2017

A starry night of brass bands, melodious choirs, classic carols and sing-along favourites with TV's top stars.

Highlights & inclusions

- A Circle Seat at the Royal Albert Hall for 'Christmas with the Stars' (ticket upgrades available)
- A short panoramic London sightseeing tour
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ELY SPORT

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Cycling

GOOD TIMES: Darran Bennett and, right, Will Shepherd in action on the 25-mile E2/25 course near Newmarket Pictures: Davey Jones

No lazy bank holiday weekend for cyclists

ELY & District Cycling Club riders were competing on all three days of the August bank holiday weekend.

The racing started early on Saturday morning on the E1/10A course in the Victoria CC event.

Nik Banks was the fastest Ely rider at the event with a time of 23:37, with Martin Holmes close behind in a time of 23:47, a course personal best for him. Cliff Loveday set a time of 24:29 and Alison Holmes finished in 29:23.

Sunday saw another early start for the four Ely riders taking part in the VTTA 25-mile event on the E2/25 course near Newmarket.

Darran Bennett finished in a time of 54:55 followed by Will Shepherd in a time of 55:32, a distance personal best by a significant 2 minutes 47 seconds. Derek Ricketts finished in 57:30, with John Manlow shortly behind with a time of 57:55.

Rory Havis and Rob Golding headed up to Hull on Sunday to take part in a race on the V718 course.

Both took advantage of the fast course, setting impressive times of 19:57 and 20:06 respectively. Havis's time was a distance personal best for him by 16 seconds – enough to bring him below the 20-minute barrier for the first time at an average speed of over 30mph.

The weekend's racing finished on Monday with Matt Eley, Tom Sykes and Nik Banks taking part in the VC Norwich event on the B10/38 course.

Unfortunately, Sykes and Banks missed the turn at the halfway point on the course and so did not set a time, but Eley set a time of 20:31, a course personal best for him by 20 seconds.

Robins downed by last minute winner

Football

A 90th minute goal condemned Ely City to a 2-1 defeat at Fakenham Town in a Thurlow Nunn League, Premier Division match on Tuesday.

The hosts went in front after just six minutes thanks to a Tom Williams own goal and they held on to their lead until half time.

But City equalised in the 72nd minute when Craig Neal crossed for Ash Walter to score.

City were on course for a point until the dying moments when Fakenham scored their second.

The Robins won a tight league match away to Stanway Rovers 1-0 on Saturday.

An Alex Theobald goal in the second half proved the difference as the visitors secured their fourth clean sheet in six games.

In the Bostik League, North, **Soham Town Rangers** were pegged back in a 2-2 draw against visitors Bury Town on Monday'.

Rangers were looking to bounce back from their 3-1 reverse at Potters Bar Town on Saturday and went ahead through Lewis Endacott after 11 minutes, before Matty Allan made it 2-0 at the break.

But Ollie Hughes got a goal back for Bury just after half time before Darren Mills levelled around the hour to ensure the points were shared.

Rangers boss Robbie Mason bemoaned the officiating as his side fell to defeat to Potters Bar.

Rangers were one goal and one man down after 25 minutes, with William Wambeek opening the scoring at the Pakex Stadium before Harry Norman 'walked' 12 minutes later.

Despite the numerical disadvantage they levelled from the spot, with James Tricks hammering home a penalty on 29 minutes.

However, two goals either side of the break from Michael Murray sealed the win for Town.

Despite the defeat, Mason said he was proud of the way the players conducted themselves.

He said: "We defended very poorly for the first two goals. Both were from free-kicks and even when you're a man down you should be able to defend better.

"We played well, though, and have scored eight goals in three games so we'll bounce back."

Speedway

Big win over Potters equals Mildenhall's season's best

RAMPAGING Mildenhall were at their ruthless best as they tore Stoke apart 61-29 in the National League yesterday to equal their biggest victory of the season.

The match was soon over as a contest as Jon Armstrong, Jordan Jenkins, Dan Halsey and Luke Ruddick all went through their first three races unbeaten.

Armstrong and Jenkins combined for three of the five 5-1 maximums that put the Fen Tigers 39-15 ahead after just nine heats, as Stoke wilted like a boxer on the ropes.

After three imperious wins, Ruddick lost ground in heat 10 as he hit a slick spot on the second bend, and despite powering past Luke Priest for third, he lost out on his first maximum.

Halsey, too, missed out on an unbeaten racecard as, after an incisive pass under Mitchell Davey in his third ride, he chased hard after his rival in heat 13 but the Potters' No 1 held on for the visitors' sole race win.

Jenkins executed a sublime last-lap pass around Priest in the penultimate race to remain undefeated in four rides, but he couldn't complete the job in the final race as Armstrong blitzed past Davey on an engine he's acquired through a £20 gamble to complete a full-house.

Mildenhall – Jenkins 13 (5 rides), Armstrong 12+3 (5), Halsey 11 (4), Ruddick 10 (4), Mountain 6+2 (4), Verge 5 (4), Spooner 4+1 (4)

Stoke – Davey 10 (5), Atkin 6+1 (5), Terry-Daley 6 (5), Priest 3+1 (4), Dicken 3 (4), Burnett 1+1 (4)

■ Mildenhall were the latest victims to succumb to Lakeside's dominant home form, as they fell to a 44-33 defeat, Jon Armstrong top-scoring for Fen Tigers with eight points.

The Fen Tigers kept it close in the first four heats thanks to a 5-1 from reserve duo Drew Kemp and Danno Verge, but they ultimately couldn't match the Hammers' top end power.

■ Mildenhall have qualified for the National Trophy final against Plymouth after Kent lost at Eastbourne.

DAVID CRANE

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